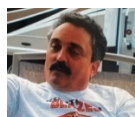
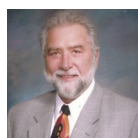


**FROM:** National Chaplain

**DATE:** 13 October 2023



**RONALD LEE "Ronnie" ABBOTT** - Died Saturday, August 19, 2023 at the hospital in Salisbury, Maryland at the age of 76. He was a resident of Eden, Maryland. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Perryhawkin, Maryland on February 5, 1947 to the late Leroy Marriner and Twila. Ronnie was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather. Ronnie grew up in Perryhawkin, MD and graduated from Washington High School with the class of '66. He was raised by his loving parents Twila and Leroy Marriner. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Dale (née Stephens) Abbott, who together they were blessed with two daughters, Stephanie Lee Abbott-Covington and husband Jamie, and Traci Lynn Abbott-Todd and husband Kris. Ronnie was affectionately known as Poppy to his five grandchildren, Rylee Gwen Covington, Lillie Grace Covington, Sadie Brianne Todd, Kyler Memphis Ronald Todd, and Savanna Brielle Todd. Ronnie also has a brother-in-law Roger Stephens and wife Donna, and niece Megan Stephens Coffey and husband John, and nephew Jacob Stephens and fiancée Abbi. He also is survived by a sister Irene Brown and niece Debbie Ziemer, and two nephews, Brad, and David Mason. He is also survived by several Abbott family members. Ronnie was preceded in death by his devoted parents, and sister and brother-in-law Ruth and Al Mason. After graduating high school, Ronnie served in the United States Navy as a Corpsman in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 9<sup>th</sup> Marines, 3<sup>rd</sup> Marine Division. He was known to his fellow soldiers as "Doc." While in Vietnam, he and unit referred to themselves as "2/9 - Hell in a Helmet." Ronnie was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Eden Chapter #624**, Military Order of the Cootie, Veterans of Foreign Wars Meuse Post #194, Disabled American Veterans Chapter #34, and a member of the American Legion Post #67. Ronnie retired from the Department of Natural Resources as Chief Forrester. After retirement, he was a substitute driver and maintained bus #17 in Worcester County, Maryland. Ronnie was an avid reader and collector of Vietnam and war memorabilia. He was also very proud of his Native American heritage and was a member of the Nause Waiwash Band of Indians Tribe. There was a memorial service for Ronnie at Hinman Funeral Home on Saturday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> at 12:00 Noon, with visitation beginning at 11:00 AM located at 11673 Somerset Avenue, Princess Anne, MD. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Veterans of Foreign Wars Meuse Post #194, 821 East Williams Street, Salisbury, MD 21804, in memory of Ronnie Abbott. To express condolences to the family, visit [www.hinmanfuneralhome.com](http://www.hinmanfuneralhome.com).

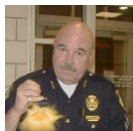


**GEORGE EARL ADAMS, JR.** – Died Thursday, July 27, 2023 in Shelby Township, Michigan at the age of 78. He died from a heart attack sustained while being operated on at the hospital. He was born in Detroit, Michigan on July 18, 1945 to the late George Earl Adams. Sr. and Gloria Adams. He was the beloved husband to Isabelle; loving father of John (Sue) Olley;

cherished grandfather of Breanna, Dominic, and Alyssa; dear brother of Janice (Peter) Piccini, Gary (Pamela), and the late William; fun and loving uncle of Wendy (Teddy), Heidi (Steve), Richard, Jason (Brianna), Danielle (Teddy), and; great-uncle of Kaylee, Nathaniel, Morgan, Alexandria, Gabriella, the late Jacob, the late Desmond, Kendra, Paxton, Emerson, Hudson, and Aiden. He was predeceased by his parents, George, Sr., and Gloria, and his treasured grandmother, Lydia. He served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Detroit Chapter #9*. Visitation was on Saturday, August 19<sup>th</sup> from 2:00-3:00 PM for family only and from 3:00-9:00 PM for guests with a 5:00 PM Funeral Service followed by Military honors at Wujek-Calcaterra and Sons, Inc. in Shelby on Van Dyke at 25 Mile Road. Light refreshments were served from 3:00-5:00 PM. Please share memories with the family at their online guestbook at [WujekCalcaterra.com](http://WujekCalcaterra.com).



**WILLARD DARREL ANDERSON** – Died unexpectedly Tuesday, June 20, 2023 at the Minneapolis VA Medical Center after a short hospital stay. He was 75 years of age and a resident of North Branch, Minnesota. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on July 28, 1947 in Plum City, Wisconsin and grew up in Spring Valley, Wisconsin. Willard married Patricia Schwartz in Saint Paul, Minnesota on September 30, 1967. He was a Vietnam Veteran and was proud of his service in the United States Navy on the USS Iwo Jima and the USS Dubuque. He was a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Mora Chapter #684*. He enjoyed being outdoors, building birdhouses and talking to family and friends. He is preceded in death by his parents, Orin and Alice Anderson; his brothers Orlin and Calvin Anderson; parents-in-law Joseph and Helen Schwartz; and siblings-in-law Doug DeLong, Linda Anderson, Diane Anderson, Leroy and Victoria Rigdon, and Raymond Schwartz. Survivors include his wife of 55 years, Patricia; 5 children: Laura (Steve) Zupon of Forest Lake, Tony Anderson of Columbia Heights, Robin Anderson of Forest Lake, Jason Anderson of Saint Paul and Shanon Anderson of Forest Lake; 4 grandchildren: Hannah, Sophie, Violet and Ellen Zupon; siblings: Lorraine DeLong of Elmwood, WI, Ron (Arlene) Anderson of Hibbing, Don Anderson of Hudson, WI, Carol Schilling of Spring Valley, Crystal (Terry) Lubich of Roberts, WI, Doyle Anderson of Spring Valley, Gary (Becky) Anderson of Elmwood and Barb Anderson of Ellsworth, WI; siblings-in-law: Connie Anderson of Spring Valley, Dennis (Lori) Schwartz of Barnum and Billy (Barb) Schwartz of Scandia; many nieces, nephews and friends. Thank you to the staff at the VA Medical Center for making Willard's last days comfortable. In respect of Willard's wishes, no funeral or memorial service was held. He was interred at Fort Snelling National Cemetery.



**JAMES M. "Jim" "Jimbo" ANGELINI** – Died Sunday, August 6, 2023 in Louisville, Kentucky at the age of 71. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on September 6, 1951. Jim proudly served his country as a Sergeant in United States Army with the Air Cavalry Troop, 11<sup>th</sup> Armored Cavalry Regiment (the Legendary Blackhorse Regiment) in the Vietnam War in 1970. He was a Life Member of the 11<sup>th</sup> ACVVC. He was also a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Louisville Chapter #454*. Jim was retired from Louisville Metro Corrections. He is survived by his wife Kay and sons Nick and Eric. The Angelini family hosted a Celebration of Life Service on Saturday, September 2, 2023 from 1:00–5:00 PM at the Blankenbaker F.O.P. Lodge. The lodge's address is 2713 Blankenbaker Road, Louisville, KY. In lieu of flowers, the family accepted donations at the service for Jim's favorite charities. If you would like to donate directly, opens in a new window, please go to the link below <https://uniononly.io/o/louisvillelodge77/in-memory-of-james-angelini>. The Air Cavalry Troop Chapter of the Blackhorse Association will gather at the Gold Vault Inn, 1225 North Dixie Boulevard, Radcliff, KY.



**GERARD THOMAS ALTOFF** – Died recently in 2023 in Littlestown, Pennsylvania at the age of 73. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on October 8, 1949. He was a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Williamsburg Chapter #957*. After serving a four-year tour of duty with the United States Coast Guard, which included a WestPac cruise to Vietnam, Gerard T Altoff joined the US National Park Service in 1972. He held positions at Zion National Park, in Utah, then Theodore Roosevelt National Park in North Dakota followed by Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial Superintendent in Put-in-Bay Ohio. "Amongst My Best Men: African Americans and the War of 1812" (1996) and "Oliver Hazard Perry and the Battle of Lake Erie" (Revised edition 1999) and "Deep Water Sailors, Shallow Water Soldiers"(1988) were all published by The Perry Group. They were written by Gerard T. Altoff while he lived on the island. All three are essential books on the War of 1812 and expertly cover the Battle of Lake Erie subject area. They are all still in print. Other publications written by Mr. Altoff include: Published works include: "Leathernecks on Lake Erie," in Leatherneck Magazine, (November, 1988); "African-Americans in the United States Navy: War of 1812," in The Journal of Erie Studies (spring, 1994); "A Signal Victory: The Lake Erie Campaign:1812-1813", co-author, published by Naval Institute Press, 1997; "A Bulldog of a Naval Gun: The Carronade and its Impact on Lake Erie," in The Journal of Erie Studies (spring, 1998), and "The Battle of Lake Erie, A Narrative," in James M. Morris (ed.), Readings in American Military History, Pearson/Prentice Hall, 2003.

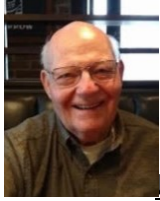
**JEAN OLIVIA (née Adams) BAKER** – Died Thursday, October 5, 2023 in Silverhill, Alabama at the age 79. The cause of death was sepsis. She was born on July 27, 1944 in Mobile, Alabama. She was a *Life Member of Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America – Robertsdale Chapter #864*. A Celebration of Life for Jean was held on Sunday, October 22, 2023 at 2:00 PM at Mars Hill Church located at 17176 Greeno Road, Fairhope, AL. In order to honor Jean's memory, donations can be made to the Robertsdale Scout Association (Memo: Mickey and Jean's Memorial).

**BOB BANGERT** – Died recently in 2023 in Green Bay, Wisconsin at the age of 70. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on January 1, 1953. He is survived by his wife, Diane. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – De Pere Chapter #224**.



**EUGENE LYNN “Barney” BARNHART** - Died Monday, September 25, 2023 at The Villages Hospital in Florida at the age of 81. He was a resident of Lady Lake, Florida. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Columbus, Indiana on November 21, 1941, then moved to Camdenton, Missouri at a young age. Barney attended Shawnee Mission High School near Kansas City and graduated from Kansas University before joining the United States Air Force. He enjoyed piloting fast airplanes and served his country as a fighter pilot in Vietnam. Barney was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for his valor and cherished his career with the Air Force. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Oxford Chapter #1036**. Survivors include Mary Ann Kober from The Villages, many nieces and nephews, and six brothers and sisters from Kansas. Graveside services will be held at Everbreeze, the beloved family farm in Iola, Kansas. Condolences, memories, and photos may be shared on the tribute wall.

**MICHAEL DENNIS “Denny” BENDER** - Died Tuesday, April 25, 2023 at home in Cookeville, Tennessee at the age of 79. The cause of death is unknown. Michael was born in Girard, Pennsylvania on May 1, 1942 to the late Michael Bender and Anna (née Lucas) Bender. Michael joined the United States Army after graduating high school. From there, he went on to serve two tours of duty in Vietnam. He was awarded the Bronze Star for his service to our nation. After retiring from the Army, he went on to work for the Department of Defense as a supply manager. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Texarkana (Texas) Chapter #278**. To his family and friends, Michael was known as “Dallas” because he was country before country was cool. He liked riding motorcycles and traveling. He loved watching John Wayne movies. Michael is survived by daughters Denise (Bruce) Hale of Smethport and Deborah (William) Seighman of Beaver Falls, PA; grandchildren Raneë Eichmann, Dane Faes, Bryce Hale, Shawna Boydston, Miranda Seighman, and William “B.J.” Seighman; great grandchildren Jace Boydston and Trenton Boydston; sister Shirley Bender of PA; and brother Robert Bender of Florida. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by four sisters and two brothers. Visitation was held on May 23, 2023 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon at the Hartle-Tarbox Funeral Homes, Inc., Smethport. A Catholic Blessing service was conducted at the funeral home at Noon following the visitation. Military Honors were accorded after the services by the Crosby and Smethport Honor Guard. Burial with full military honors will be in Indiantown Gap National Cemetery, Annville, Pennsylvania. Memorials, in lieu of flowers, may be made to the American Legion; John Berg Post #976 of Crosby, PA or the VFW Post #2497 of Smethport, PA. Online condolences may be made at [www.hartle-tarboxfuneralhomes.com](http://www.hartle-tarboxfuneralhomes.com). The arrangements were under the direction of the Hartle-Tarbox Funeral Homes, Inc., Smethport, Pennsylvania.



**JOHN HENRY "Jack" BERRY, JR.** – Died Tuesday, August 1, 2023 in Farmington Hills, Michigan at the age of 80. The cause of death is unknown. Jack was born on January 11, 1943, in Detroit, Michigan to the late John Henry Berry, Sr. and Shirley Elizabeth (née Blanchard) Berry. A proud United States Army Veteran, Jack served in Vietnam from 1967-1969. Following his time in the Army, Jack spent his career as an Accountant, primarily in the Insurance Industry. He earned his Certified Public Accounting designation in 1973, and in his spare time, taught CPA review classes to aspiring accountants hoping to earn the designation. He retired in 2008 as the Chief Financial Officer of North Pointe Insurance Company, and went on to volunteer at Dearborn's Greenfield Village, where he worked on all types of vintage cars. It was his childhood dream come true. Born and raised in Dearborn, Michigan, Jack was a member of the Dearborn Historical Society and had a fondness for the history of the Ford Motor Company. He loved to watch his beloved Detroit Red Wings, but the Detroit Tigers and Detroit Lions were not far behind in his affections. He was an avid hockey player, playing in the neighborhood parks of Dearborn as a small child and moving on to after work leagues at local ice rinks. Jack hung up his skates at age 70 and started travelling with his wife, Christine. They enjoyed several trips abroad and within the United States, his favorite destination being the majestic Mount Rushmore. Jack loved Chris-Craft boats and Big Band Jazz. He could 'name that tune' faster than anyone! He understood the importance of giving back and was extremely generous with his time and expertise. Jack served many terms as the Treasurer of the Austin-Healey Club of America as well as holding other positions within local and national chapters of that organization. One of his proudest achievements was being a member of the Executive Committee that built the Ronald McDonald House in Detroit in November 1979. Both Jack and Christine worked tirelessly to raise funds and awareness for that worthy cause, and one very close to their hearts. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Plymouth Chapter #528**. Jack believed in the importance of Family, starting at an early age with his grandfather Walter Blanchard. Walter adored his grandson Jack from the moment he laid eyes on him, and the feeling was overwhelmingly mutual. After Jack's father died and Shirley remarried the wonderful Richard (Dick) Wever in 1973, he considered himself blessed to have found in Dick a wonderful companion for his mother, three new siblings and a grandfather for his children like none other. Jack was the beloved husband of Christine for over 54 years; cherished father of Brian (Stacie Turner) Berry and Amie (Jeffrey) Paddock; proud grandfather of James Berry, Fiona Berry, Lindsey Paddock, and Jeremy Paddock; dear brother of Judith (Ray) Buck, Jane (Larry) Darling, Suzanne (Ross) Singleton, Christopher Berry (deceased), Martha Berry, James (Karen Freedland) Berry; adored stepbrother of Martha (the late James) Hornkohl, Linda (Paul) Wulff and John (Kathy) Wever; and admired cousin and uncle to countless cousins, nieces, and nephews. Jack was loved by many and will be missed deeply. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to one of the charitable organizations that Jack held dear: The Ronald McDonald House Charities of Detroit; 4707 Saint Antoine Street, Suite #200, Detroit, MI 48201 or [www.rmhc-detroit.org](http://www.rmhc-detroit.org) and the local Farmington Hills Food Bank, CARES of Farmington Hills; 27835 Shiawassee Rd;



Farmington Hills, MI 48336 or [www.caresfh.org](http://www.caresfh.org). A Memorial Visitation was held on Thursday, August 31, 2023 from 1:30 - 4:30 PM at Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, 33603 Grand River Avenue, Farmington, MI 48335.



**KENNETH T. "Ken" BOYER** - Died Monday, August 28, 2023 at home in Westport, Massachusetts at the age of 75, with his family by his side. The cause of death was cancer. He was born in Fall River, Massachusetts on December 5, 1947 to the late George H. and Rita (née Dolan) Boyer, and his late stepmother Exilda M. (née Furtado) Boyer. He was the husband of Veronica J. (née Bento) Boyer. He had been a resident of Westport for the past 40 years. Mr. Boyer was a Veteran of the United States Marine Corps during the Vietnam War era from 1965 to 1969. He also served a year with the Rhode Island Army National Guard from 1974 to 1975. He was a proud member of the American Legion Post #145 and a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Westport Chapter #207**, both of Westport. A certified Respiratory Therapist, Ken worked for Saint Anne's Hospital for 37 years. Mr. Boyer was active in scouting, serving on various committees at the pack, troop and district levels. He was a Webelos den leader, Assistant Cub Master, Cubmaster and Pack Committee Chairperson for Pack #100 and Troop Committee member for Troop #100 both of Our Lady of Grace Church, Westport. He also enjoyed time spent on the staff of Cub Scout Day Camp. Mr. Boyer enjoyed camping and yearly trips to Walt Disney World with family and friends. His greatest joy was spending time with his grandchildren. Survivors along with his wife include his five sons: Scott M. Boyer of Fall River, David B. Patykewich of CA, Mark C. Boyer of Fall River, Stephen A. Boyer and his wife Elizabeth of Tiverton and Jeffrey T. Boyer and his wife Amanda of Fall River; 2 daughters: Karen M. Dexter and her husband John Shaughnessy of Franklin, MA and Kimberly A. Boyer of Fall River; 6 grandchildren: Christopher, Jake, Chyanne, Cameron, Lilly-ann and Vaida; along with many nieces and nephews. He was the brother of the late George D. Boyer. Funeral to which relatives and friends were invited was on Friday, September 1, 2023 from the Potter Funeral Home at 10:00 AM followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at Our Lady of Grace Church, Westport at 11:00 AM. Calling hours were held on Thursday from 5:00-8:00 PM. The interment was in Beech Grove Cemetery, Westport. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Southcoast VNA, 200 Mill Road, Fairhaven, MA 02719 or the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 22718, Oklahoma City, OK 73123-1718.



**MARK WILLIAM BRAVERMAN** - Died Monday, July 10, 2023 peacefully in his sleep at home in Bettendorf, Iowa at the age of 68. The cause of death was heart failure. Mark was born on June 1, 1955 in Rochester, New York to the late Leonard and Miriam Braverman. After high school, Mark served in the United States Air Force from 1975 to 1977. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Bettendorf Chapter #776**. Mark had a son and daughter from a previous marriage. He met Deb (née Forret) Morgan in 2001 and were later married on July 9,

2006. Mark loved to travel, go on cruises, having spirited conversations with family and friends, and watch his favorite television shows. He always tried to help others the best he could. Survivors include his wife, Deb; his son, Lee (Aliza) Braverman and their daughters, Ayelet and Leah; his daughter, Heather Braverman and her two sons, Nachman and Ezra; Deb's daughters, Heather (Ken) Chavis and their children, Joey and Kaylynn, Katie (Ty) Scott and their daughter, Lexi; Mark's sister, Carol Braverman Kauffman. He was preceded in death by his parents. A traditional Jewish graveside with Military Honors took place on Tuesday, July 11, 2023 in Rock Island Hebrew Cemetery. A Celebration of Life gathering was held at a later date. Online condolences may be left for the family at [wheelerpressly.com](http://wheelerpressly.com).

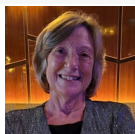


**MICHAEL ERNEST "Mike" BREHIO** (USA, SSG-Ret.) - Died Saturday, May 7, 2022 in Manville, Rhode Island at the age of 77, with loving family by his side. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Pawtucket, Rhode Island on February 20, 1945 to the late Ernest and Margaret R. (née Benn) Brehio and raised by the late Barbara (née McMinn) Brehio. He was the husband of Marjorie L. (née Partington) Brehio. Michael had been employed as a Staff Sergeant in the United States Army for 18 years before retiring. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – James Michael Ray Memorial (Woonsocket) Chapter #818**. He then was the proprietor of M&M Cleaning for several years. Besides his wife, he is survived by two daughters, Cheryl Brehio-Lafond and Christine Brehio, four grandchildren, Caitlyn Brehio, Homer Lafond IV, his wife Katerina, Hunter Lafond and Chloe Lafond, a great-grandson, Parker Ryan Brehio, a sister, Darlene Laprey and many nieces, nephews and great-nieces and great-nephews. He was the brother of the late Jonathan Brehio (His twin), Ronald Brehio, Elaine Brehio and Robert Brehio and grandfather of the late Hannah Lafond. Visitation was held on Saturday, May 14, 2022 starting at 10:30 AM followed by Military Honors at 1:30 PM in the Keefe Funeral Home, 5 Higginson Avenue, Lincoln. The burial was private in the Rhode Island State Veterans Cemetery, Exeter.



**RICKEY BRANSON "Rick" BROWN** - Died suddenly on Sunday, July 16, 2023 in Garden Creek, New Jersey at the age of 69. He was formerly of Cape May, New Jersey. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Sacramento, California on December 21, 1953 to the late Winnie and William Brown. He is survived by his wife of 46 years, Barbara (formerly Waterman) Brown; daughter Kristin (Rob) Charsha of Alabama; beloved grandchildren: Zack, Bobby, Becky, Zoe, Andy, and Raegan; brother Rockey Brown of California; sister-in-law Cheryl-Ann Brown of North Carolina; many nieces and nephews; beloved friends Marge and Ed Panny; as well as many more beloved friends. Along with his parents, he is predeceased by his brother, Reggie Brown. Rick proudly served in the United States Coast Guard. He later worked as "the" marine electrician

at the Cape May Lewes Ferry. He was a *Life Member* and *President* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – North Cape May Chapter #602** and member of the Gold Wing Road Riders Association. Anyone who knew Rick, knew what a character he was with his great sense of humor and he always had a story to tell. The services were private. Donations may be made in Rick's name to the New Jersey Veterans Memorial Home, 524 NW Boulevard, Vineland, NJ 08360.



**KATHERINE BROWNING** - Died Wednesday, August 23, 2023 in Princeton, West Virginia at the age of 71. The cause of death is unknown. She was born on September 23, 1951 in Havre-de-Grace, Maryland to the late Bundy and Eula (née Johnson) Dye. Mrs. Browning was a payroll specialist at HealthSouth in Princeton where she retired after over 30 years of service. She attended Fairview Christian Community Church in Princeton, was a *Life Member* of **Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America – Princeton Chapter #628** and a member of the Princeton Elks Lodge. She enjoyed traveling with family and friends. She loved to garden, sew and read. She was an avid bowler and loved to dance. She loved spending time with her new puppy, Gabby and grand-dog Moose. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Danny Browning; and brother, Jerry Dye. Survivors include son, Jason Browning and partner Anthony Starner of Roanoke, VA; brothers, Mark Dye and wife Barbara of Peterstown; Edward Dye and wife Lisa of Charleston; and sister, Audra Giberson and husband Walter of Princeton. She is also survived by many nieces and nephews. Funeral services were conducted at 1:00 PM on Monday, August 28, 2023 at the Bailey-Kirk Funeral Home in Princeton with Pastor Rodney Lawson officiating. The interment was at Roselawn Memorial Gardens in Princeton. The family received friends on Sunday, August 27, 2023 from 3:00-4:00 PM at the Bailey-Kirk Funeral Home in Princeton. Online condolences may be shared with the family at [www.bailey-kirk.com](http://www.bailey-kirk.com).



**GEORGE JOSEPH CARDINALE** – *and his wife, Mary Krysia (née Suchowolok) Cardinale* and their dog Honey, of Hudson, Florida all died together in a tragic house fire in Hudson, Florida on Thursday, August 3, 2023. He was 80 years of age and his wife was 77 years old. George was born on February 2, 1943 in Brooklyn, New York to the late Joseph Rosario Cardinale and Jean Cardinale. He was the husband of Mary Krysia Cardinale. George was a proud Vietnam Veteran who was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Port Richey Chapter #1003**. George was a true family man who enjoyed riding his Harley and ruining the family's antipasto salad by adding anchovies to it. Mary Cardinale was born on July 10, 1946 in Germany, to the late Thomas Suchowolak and Marie (née Szczepaniak) Suchowolak. Mary loved Jehovah, gardening, animals, and her family, and was always quick to offer her pickle soup to anyone willing to try it. Both George and Mary cherished their dog Honey, who brought smiles and love to everyone who visited them. George and Mary are survived by their daughter: Kimberly Cardinale; their sons: Kevin (Careyann) Cardinale, Erik (Lisa) Biegun, Ronnie Cardinale and Timmy



Cardinale; and their ten grandchildren: Billy, Juliet, Leah, Georgie, Tommy, Destinee, Clint, Kimmy, Brittney, and Hunter. The family received friends from 2:00 to 4:00 PM on Saturday, August 12, 2023 at the Grace Memorial Funeral Home in Hudson, Florida. A Memorial Service was held at 4:00 PM on Saturday at the Funeral Home with the burial in the Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell, Florida.



**ARTHUR EDWARD CARLSON** - Died Sunday, August 20, 2023 in Roscoe, Illinois at the age of 80. He was formerly of Rockford, Illinois. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Rockford on January 26, 1943; married Janey L. Thornburg in 1980 in Machesney Park. He was a Class of 1961 Harlem High School graduate. He served in the United States Army from 1960-1963. Arthur owned Carlson Carpet Service for 20 years and worked in material handling as a lift truck technician for 17 years; he retired in 2000. Arthur loved bow hunting and camping. He liked working with wood and building his log home. He was a member of VFW Post #5300 Hanover and a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Elizabeth Chapter #928** and served on the Honor Guard. He is survived by his wife, Janey Carlson; children, Todd Edward Carlson and Cari Lynn (Kelly) Johnson; grandchildren, Sammy T. (Tara) Lenz and Cory J. (Katie) Lenz; great-grandchildren, Lennox Maeve and Oliver Jason and Paisley Jean; sisters, Gloria (Tom) McMahon, Linda (Bill) Brantley, Carole Moore and Shawn Carlson; and many nieces and nephews. He is predeceased by his son, Jason Carlson; parents, Edward and Dolly Carlson; and brother, Arden Carlson. Celebration of Life was held from 1:00 to 3:00 PM on Saturday, September 9, 2023 at the American Legion, 1011 South Alpine Road, Rockford, IL 61108.



**JOHN EDWARD CASTLEBERRY** - Died Monday, October 9, 2023 at the Dorminy Medical Center in Fitzgerald, Georgia at the age of 78. He was a resident of Fitzgerald. The cause of death is unknown. Mr. Castleberry was born on September 4, 1945 in Macon, Georgia to the late Thomas Edward and Minnie Lee Castleberry. He graduated from Fitzgerald High School in 1963 and honorably served in the United States Navy. Mr. Castleberry attended South Georgia College and Southern Technical Institute and retired from Delphi. He enjoyed tending his pecan trees and being on the farm. He was a member of the American Legion Post #99 and a member of Central United Methodist Church. He was also a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Fitzgerald Chapter #1082**. He is survived by many cousins. Funeral services were held at 2:00 PM on Thursday, October 12, 2023, under the porte-cochere at Evergreen Cemetery, in Fitzgerald, Georgia, with the Reverend Chris Ramsey officiating. The Paulk Funeral Home, Fitzgerald was in charge of arrangements.



**JAMES A. "Jim" "Champ" CHAMPION** - Died Sunday, July 30, 2023 in Chesterfield Township, Michigan at the age of 76. The cause of death is unknown. James was born on February 5, 1947 in Detroit, Michigan to the late James and Frieda (née Goller) Champion. He was the loving husband of Marie for 31 wonderful years; proud father of Ryan and Darrin (Melissa); cherished grandfather of Brandon, Brendan (Diana), Lauryn, Allison, Braylon and Samantha, and; dear brother of Karen Nagle. Jim graduated from Wilbur Wright High School in Detroit. After graduation Jim served in the United States Army from 1966 - 1968. He was sent to Vietnam in the fall of 1966. While bravely serving his country as a radio operator with an infantry platoon he earned a Purple Heart and two Bronze Stars, one with a V device for outstanding valor. While Jim came back from Vietnam to a country who scorned his service and treated him with derision, he never lost his pride in service, his appreciation for his fellow vets, or his love of country. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Clinton Township Chapter #154**. During his life Jim worked as a pressman, a distribution manager and an assemblyman, however no job was ever more important to him than his family. In his life Jim took the most pride in being a loving father to his two amazing sons, Ryan and Darrin, a faithful husband to his wife Marie, a doting Papa to his beautiful grandchildren, and an honorable military veteran who served his community. These four pillars of Jim's life were rooted in his faith in God with the Catholic Church as his faith's foundation. Nothing was more important. Visitation for James was from 2:00-8:00 PM on Wednesday, August 2, 2023 at the Wasik Funeral Home – Gendernalik Chapel located at 35259-23 Mile Road in New Baltimore. There were Military Honors at 6:00 PM and a Scripture Service at 7:00 PM. He was laid-In-state from 9:30 until a 10:00 AM Mass of Christian Burial on Thursday, August 3, 2023 at Saint Thecla Catholic Church located at 20740 Nunneley Road in Clinton Township. In lieu of floral arrangements, memorial donations may be made to the following: Tunnels to Towers Foundation, [www.t2t.org](http://www.t2t.org) or to the VFW Post #7573 at [www.vfw7573.org](http://www.vfw7573.org).



**LYLE MARLIN CHRISTY, SR.** (USA, SSG-Ret.) - Died Sunday, August 6, 2023 in Clarksville, Tennessee at the age of 85, with family and friends present. The cause of death was Agent Orange-related lung disease. He was born on May 13, 1938 in Apollo, Pennsylvania to the late Robert and Mary Christy. At the age of four, the family moved to Berrien Springs, Michigan. After graduation he joined the United States Army, serving from 1957 to 1977. He spent two tours in Vietnam, one in Korea as well as one in Germany. He was also stationed in many bases state side and Hawaii. He received the National Defense Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Good Conduct Medal (5th AWD), Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal W/DVC 60, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry w/ Palm, Purple Heart, Combat Infantryman Badge, Air Medal, Arm Forces Expeditionary Medal, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry Unit Citation (3rd AWD), Bronze Star Medal W/V Device, Presidential Unit Citation. He was a member of the Order of the Purple Heart #457, 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Association, 7<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Association, an *At-Large Life Member* of

**Vietnam Veterans of America - Tennessee**, VFW Post #4895, 11<sup>th</sup> Air Assault and DAV Chapter #101. He is preceded in death by his parents, a wife, brother, three older sisters, and two grandsons. He leaves behind his wife, Maryanna Christy, sister, Darlene Carpenter, daughters, Paula Rockinger, Tammy Kelly, Colleen Bradley Kelley, Agatha Shelton, Melinda Macdade, Mary Jo Bridges, sons, Lyle M. Christy Jr., Robert Christy and Michael Fuller, grandchildren, great grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren as well as many friends. A graveside service was held on Monday, August 14, 2023 at 11:00 AM at the Kentucky Veterans Cemetery West. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the American Heart Association.



**ALAN MAURICE "AL" COMBS** - Died Friday, August 11, 2023 at his home in Lawton, Oklahoma at the age of 72. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on October 20, 1950 in Springfield, Illinois to the late Leon C. Combs, Sr., and Sylvia (née Williams) Combs. Alan preferred to be called Al. Al served in the United States Navy for five years and then joined the United States Marine Corps where he served for four years followed by two years as a Reservist. Al traveled around the world with the Navy and fought in the Vietnam War as a Marine. He was awarded the National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Combat Action Medal, Good Conduct Medal, and the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Lawton Chapter #751**. Al worked as a carpenter with his dad for two years after being released from military service. Al's brother, Leon, Jr., once said there was no better cabinet maker than his brother Al. In later years, Al served as caregiver to his father who suffered from Alzheimer's. Al became friends with his next-door neighbor, Gabrielle (Gay) Ford and they were soon married on December 25, 1991 becoming a part of her large family. For many years, Al and Gay travelled extensively in their red van with the CB antennae on top. They travelled to Branson, Corpus Christi, and many other places, and visited Gay's family in Tennessee. They bought a home near Fort Cobb Lake and set up residence in Fly Inn, Oklahoma. Al and Gay enjoyed playing dominoes with their lake neighbors and joined the Fly Inn Volunteer Fire Department. Al loved fishing and watching the local wildlife around their home by the lake and he and Gay loved hosting family gatherings by the lake. Al loved dancing with Gay and was an expert at polishing her brass animal collection. He loved talking with the grandchildren and sharing his stash of cookies with the kids. After Al and Gay moved back to Lawton to be closer to family, they bought a home with a giant pecan tree and battled with the local squirrels for ownership of Gay's collection of potted plants. Al loved watching movies on his computer and eating Cheetos in bed. Al loved to tell jokes, but he was also known to be very strong-willed once he made up his mind. Al is survived by his nephew, Jayson Combs and various other Combs family nieces and nephews, and his extended family of Gay's children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild and all their spouses. The funeral service was at 10:00 AM on Monday, August 21, 2023 in the Becker-Rabon Funeral Home Chapel with Paulatta Tompkins, Daughter, Lawton, Oklahoma officiating. The burial was in the Sunset Memorial Gardens, Lawton, Oklahoma.

**CHARLES DELBERT CONLEY** – Died Wednesday, September 27, 2023 in Pinson, Alabama at the age of 79. The cause of death was Alzheimer's disease. He was born on July 24, 1944. He served in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Pelham Chapter #416**.

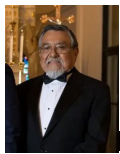


**STEPHEN D. COONRADT** - Died Friday, June 2, 2023 at Samaritan Hospital in Troy, New York at the age of 76. He was a resident of Wynantskill, New York. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Troy on June 24, 1946 to the late Loveman Coonradt and Alma (née Keefe) Coonradt and the loving husband to Carol (née Canam) Coonradt. Stephen served proudly in the United States Marine Corps during the Vietnam War. He was an avid golfer, NASCAR fan, enjoyed spending time with his family and hunting camp family and his Stewart's coffee club. He worked and retired from Ryder Truck Rental in Albany as a truck mechanic and Heim's Auto Care. He is a life member of the American Legion Post #1489, VFW of Poestenkill, **Vietnam Veterans of America – Cohoes Chapter #8** and Defreestville FD. In addition to his wife Carol of 50 years, he is survived by his children Donald (Emily) Coonradt and Kelly (Greg Piche) Coonradt, his granddaughter Aubrey, his sister Kathryn (Stewart) Clements, his sister-in-law Kathleen Durivage (Matt Heim), Courtney (Ryan) Kendrick and other nieces, nephews and cousins. Family and friends were invited to call from 4:00 to 7:00 PM on Wednesday, June 7, 2023 at the Wynantskill Funeral Home, 294 Whiteview Road, Wynantskill. Funeral services were held at 10:00 AM on Thursday, June 8, 2023 at the funeral home. The burial with military honors was at Evergreen Cemetery, Wynantskill. In Lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the American Legion Post #1489 in Wynantskill, NY. Please visit [www.wynantskillfh.com](http://www.wynantskillfh.com).



**DENNIS R. COOPER** - Died Friday, July 8, 2022 at his home in Correctionville, Iowa at the age of 71, with his sons by his side. He was formerly of Ames, Iowa. The cause of death is unknown. Dennis was born on July 14, 1950 in Ames to the late Richard and Tomy (née Thompson) Cooper. He graduated from United Community High School in 1968, and then from Iowa State University in 1972, with a Bachelor's Degree in Agricultural Engineering. He served in the United States Army from September 1971 to August 1974. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Aurelia Chapter #888**. Dennis worked briefly for Caterpillar in Peoria, Illinois, before returning to the family farm west of Ames in 1974. He farmed with his father, before eventually taking over the operation until his retirement in the Spring of 2022. Dennis' passion was farming, he was always trying to improve and make the operation as efficient as possible. On February 16, 1985, Dennis was united in marriage to Joyce Pyle at Saint Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church in Ames. To this union two sons were born, Grant and Jordan. Dennis enjoyed cycling and rode RAGBRAI for 23 years, and was a proud member of Team Cockroach. His winters were spent skiing, he was a regular at Seven Oaks, and was there multiple times a

week. Dennis would also plan ski trips every winter to different destinations, which included Colorado and British Columbia. Dennis was a lifelong Cyclone fan and a member of the best tailgate crew at Jack Trice. He was preceded in death by his wife, Joyce Cooper on November 9, 2001; parents, Richard (Tomy) Cooper; and in-laws, Robert (Virginia) Pyle. Dennis is survived by his sons, Grant Cooper of Ames and Jordan Cooper of Ames; siblings, Marlys Cooper of Ames, Sharon (Jack) Rife of Wilton, Iowa, Linda “Kathy” (John) Tingleaf of Galva, Illinois, Dwight (Cindy) Cooper of Spokane, Washington, and Dorothy (Don) Landt of Palo, Iowa; and numerous nieces and nephews. A graveside service was held at 1:00 PM on Thursday, July 14, 2022 at the Ames Municipal Cemetery in Ames. It was followed by a Celebration of Life from 4:00 to 7:00 PM on Thursday, July 14, 2022 at Seven Oaks Recreation, 1086 222<sup>nd</sup> Drive, Boone, Iowa, where drinks and light refreshments were served. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be given to the Iowa Arboretum and Gardens, 1875 Peach Avenue, Madrid, Iowa. The funeral arrangements were under the direction of the Adams Funeral Home. Online condolences may be left for Dennis’ family at [www.adamssoderstrum.com](http://www.adamssoderstrum.com).



**RICARDO SOLIS CORTEZ** (USAF, MSgt-Ret.) - Died Sunday, September 24, 2023 in Victoria, Texas at the age of 86. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on December 9, 1936 in Austwell, Texas to the late Reyes and Guadalupe Cortez. He was a member of Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church. Mr. Cortez was retired from the United States Air Force where the first 7 years of his career he monitored and collected highly classified encrypted messages which were then broken down into English language. He cross trained into the Aircraft Command and Control field. The last 6 years of his Air Force career he worked as a Superintendent in charge of Air Operations at Howard AFB, Canal Zone in the Republic of Panama and at Carswell AFB, in Fort Worth, Texas where he retired in 1975. He also retired from the State of Texas. While an employee of the State of Texas he earned a degree in Criminal Justice, from the College of the Mainland in Texas City. Mr. Cortez was also a Private Pilot and licensed to fly Cessna 150 and 172 airplanes. He was a Veteran of the Korean and Vietnam Wars. While in Vietnam he was Superintendent in Charge of the 443<sup>rd</sup> Tactical Unit Aircraft Command, Aircraft Command and Control Center, Da Nang Air Base where he assisted in directing fighter jets and bomber aircraft wherever they were needed. He retired as a Master Sergeant and his military decorations include the Air Force Commendation Medal with one bronze oak leaf, the distinguished Presidential Unit Citation, National Defense Service Medal with one bronze star, Vietnam Service Medal with four bronze stars, Korean Defense Service Medal, Air Force Longevity Service Award with three bronze oak leaves, small arms expert marksman, and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign medal. He was an At-Large Life Member of the VFW, member of the Catholic War Veterans, a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Victoria Chapter #898* and a life member of the USAF Sergeants Association. He is preceded in death by both his parents; Reyes and Guadalupe Cortez; brothers, Jesse and Frank Cortez, and stepson-in-law Patrick Rettew. He is survived by his wife Ofelia Cortez of 43 years; mother of his children Anita Cortez; siblings, Mike Cortez (Maria), Guadalupe Cortez, Robert Cortez (Christine), Juan Cortez (Doris), sons Reyes Cortez (Leah), Xavier Cortez (Ida), Sara Cardona (Andy), Gilbert Cortez (Christine), Martha Cortez, and Yvonne Nava,



stepchildren Belinda Ware, Yolanda Rettew, Stephen Romero (Sharon), John Romero, Vicki Salinas (Osbaldo), and Tila Breish (David). He is also survived by his grandchildren, Andy Cardona (Desi), Isaac Cardona, Gabrielle Dueñez (Pablo), Cecilia Cortez (Anthony), Adriana Cortez, Felicia Cortez, and Angel Cortez (Elsa), five great grandchildren with one on the way, many step great grandchildren, and many more. The pallbearers were Andy Cardona, Issac Cardona, Angel Cortez, Pablo Dueñez, Anthony Godines, and Ryan Carter. Visitation was held on Sunday, October 1, 2023 from 5:00 PM at Angel Lucy's Funeral Home with a Rosary prayed at 6:00 PM. Visitation resumed on Monday, October 2, 2023 at 1:00 PM at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church in Tivoli with a Funeral Mass to be celebrated at 2:00 PM. The burial was at Austwell Cemetery with full Military Honors. The funeral arrangements were under the care of Angel Lucy's Funeral Home in Victoria.



**STEPHEN RICHARD "Steve" COX** – Died Tuesday, January 3, 2023 in Big Spring, Texas at the age of 74. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in San Angelo, Texas on December 9, 1948 to the late Richard and Charlotte Cox. At age eight the family moved to California. There, he lived 6 blocks from Disneyland where he got his only speeding ticket in his life (age 16). Steve is survived by his wife, Voncille (née Hardy) Cox; sister Nanci Cox-Shirley (Cliff) of San Angelo, TX; daughter August (Chris) Pfau of Eagle Point, Oregon; son Geoffrey (Sherri) Cox of Beavercreek, Ohio; son David (Amanda) Cox of Tuscola, Texas; son Chris (Heather) Sims of Abilene, TX; son Jon Michael Sims (Alison) of Abilene, TX; "adopted sons" Jake Willoughby and Conlee Davis; grandchildren, Autumn Chapman; Kerrigan and Kellan Cox; Hardy, Kolt, Jonas and Landry Sims. Steve and his wife were active members of the Trinity Baptist Church, in Big Spring. A man of The Lord, Jesus dwelt in Steve's heart, and he had completed a coveted "Walk to Emmaus", only strengthening his faith. The Lord blessed Steve with many amazing gifts. The first of which led him to become a Registered Nurse before enlisting in the United States Army, where he attended 91 Charlie school and continued his training as a nurse. He shared his gift of selflessness through service to his country from December 17, 1969 – December 15, 1972. While in the Army, Steve deployed to Vietnam as a member of the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division. There, he served as nurse and combat medic. During his deployment, he was injured in the line of duty and thus awarded the Purple Heart. He was an *At-Large Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Texas**. After leaving the United States Army, Steve moved to Loveland, CO. In 1974, and after the 93<sup>rd</sup> US Congress passed what is now known as the "Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Creation Act", he and his father began Loveland's first emergency medical service. They later moved to Abilene, TX to establish Abilene's first professional emergency medical service (AEMS). Here, Steve was not only co-owner and operations officer, but also a full-time paramedic. The move from Loveland to Abilene garnered local interest into the emergency medical technician (EMT) field, and at this time, Abilene had never set about formally training EMTs. Steve developed a rigorous training program which included Advanced Red Cross first aid and EMT certification, thus bringing on more EMTs. Steve stayed with AEMS until the early 1980s, when he left to pursue his passion for art. He established his own business, Steve Cox Custom Design. It is with this business and

moniker people are most familiar. This is Steve's second gift. Through his art, he touched the lives of thousands of people. The name "Steve Cox" became a household name amongst major car show circuits and motorcycle events. Celebrities, to include Jay Leno, Travis Tritt, Alan Jackson, and even Warren Buffett personally sought Steve's talent. His talent led to his invitation to many major car show and motorcycle events spanning the nation – from Lake George NY, to Sturgis SD, from Miami FL, to the west coast. Steve often travelled with his sons to these events, forging father-son relationships which can never be broken and creating memories which can never be forgotten. Steve established what would become an annual tradition for him and his sons during their annual "show circuits". There, he and his sons would find the nearest amusement and theme parks. At one point, they had attended every major amusement park in the country and ridden every major roller coaster in the continental United States. Steve met his wife, Voncille, at a Texas state motorcycle rally. Their initial connection was formed over the music of The Beach Boys. As their relationship grew, dad then expressed his desire for marriage. Steve confessed he wanted to marry Voncille. In the tradition of asking for her hand in marriage, he asked her dad if he could marry her. Her dad's answer was "if you can stand her". Following that, he asked her to marry him in a large, public setting as he said he would. And he did! Steve asked Voncille for her hand in marriage in front of a large crowd at Jody Nix' Stampede in Big Spring. Steve and Voncille married on May 23, 2015 at her family reunion. Steve continued pinstriping and hand lettering until 2018. Despite being "retired" from the trade, Steve offered consultation and mentorship to several aspiring artists – a literal passing of the torch. They're learning from the best! Visitation was held from 9:00 AM until 9:00 PM on Wednesday with family receiving friends from 6:00 PM until 8:00 PM at Myers and Smith Funeral Home. Funeral service was at 9:00 AM on Thursday at the Trinity Baptist Church. The graveside service was held at 1:00 PM at the Texas State Veterans Cemetery in Abilene. The funeral arrangements were made by the Myers and Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at [www.myersandsmith.com](http://www.myersandsmith.com).



**JOHN ROBERT CUTLER** - Died Monday, August 21, 2023 in East Hartford, Connecticut at the age of 74, after a short illness. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Putnam, Connecticut on May 17, 1949 to Fabiola M. Cutler and the late Robert W. Cutler. John attended Thames Valley State Technical College where he earned an Associates of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering. John was a United States Army veteran serving with the 146<sup>th</sup> Aviation Company as crew chief in the Vietnam War. After being honorably discharged in 1972 he began his career with Sikorsky of Bridgeport and then Pratt and Whitney of East Hartford where he inspected jet engines for the Department of Defense. After retiring in 2006, he volunteered his time to the **Vietnam Veterans of America – Hartford Chapter #120** of East Hartford as a *Life Member* and where he was the editor for the monthly newsletter and Service Representative for numerous veterans to advocate for their much deserved VA benefits. John enjoyed watching NASCAR stock car racing and motorcycle racing and driving his Dodge Ram. John leaves his loving wife Linda D. Cutler, of East Hartford, his three children from a previous marriage, Gary Cutler of WA, Crystal Ethridge of Putnam, and Shawn Cutler of MA, his mother, Fabiola M. Cutler of

Putnam, brother, Russell Cutler and his wife Annemarie of Putnam, grandchildren Nathaniel and Jacob Cutler and many aunts, uncles and cousins. A full military graveside service was held in Munyan Cemetery, Munyan Road, Putnam, CT. The funeral arrangements were entrusted to the Gilman and Valade Funeral Home and Crematory, 104 Church Street, Putnam CT. Donations may be made to the Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter #120, 357 Main Street, East Hartford, CT 06118. For memorial guestbook please visit [www.GilmanAndValade.com](http://www.GilmanAndValade.com).



**DAVID J. DEMKOWSKI** - Died Tuesday, July 11, 2017 in Buffalo Gap, Texas at the age of 74. He was formerly of Wyoming. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on February 14, 1943 to the late Jerry and Marion Demkowski. Surviving are his children, Gretchen and Darrel Holtzlander, Iran Demkowski, David Demkowski; grandchildren, Arik (fiancée, Sarah), Steven, Dillon (Amanda); great-granddaughters, Kylie, Sophea, Ariella; brothers, James and Barb Demkowski, Charles and Lynn Demkowski, Ken and Pat Demkowski, Frank and Tammy Demkowski; sisters, Barbara and Randy Weasel, Beatrice and Kevin Montri, Beth Demkowski; many nieces, nephews and friends. David proudly served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. He was a member of American Legion Post #208 and a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Monroe Chapter #142**. A Memorial Mass for David was held at 11:00 AM on Saturday, August 5<sup>th</sup> at Saint John Vianney Church, 4101 Clyde Park SW, with an hour of visitation prior to the Mass. The family requested memorial contributions be made to Faith Hospice. Condolences may be sent online at [www.mkdfuneralhome.com](http://www.mkdfuneralhome.com).

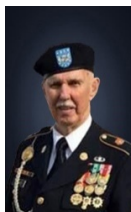


**RONALD LEE "Ron" "Badger" DICK** - Died Monday, August 7, 2023 in Beloit, Wisconsin at the age of 69. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Beloit on April 15, 1954 to the late Pete and Pat Staskal. Ron was a 1972 graduate of Beloit Memorial High School. He was a Vietnam Veteran serving with the United States Navy. Ron worked overseas for seven years for the State Department in Afghanistan and Iraq, retiring in 2018. Ron was a proud Navy Seabee serving on the USS Coral Sea. He was extremely proud of his Native American heritage and enjoyed doing reenactments as well. Ron was the Quartermaster for the Beloit VFW Post #2306 and was part of the honor guard. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Janesville Chapter #236**. He was a camp host for Hononegah Forest Preserve in Rockton, IL. Ron did volunteer work through Max Dodson and Caritas. He is survived by his daughter, Amy (Chad) Dick; grandson, Evan (Jamie) Webster; granddaughter, Samm Shultz; great granddaughter, Luna Jimenez; father, Pete Staskal; his beloved dog, Dugan; longtime best friend, Mick Ehle; stepdaughters, Christina (Woody) Elliott, Dixie (Jeremy) Carlson; step granddaughters, Baylee Van Wormer, Addison (Ben) Hawley, Jessica (Dave) Root, Katelyn (Tyler) Walker; step grandson, Parker Rogaskie; brothers, Jim (Connie) Dick and Jeff Staskal; sisters, Lonna Fick and Janice Shultz; nieces, Tara Rhamy, Kelli Jo Quimby, Shannon Pendergrass, Summer Horwedel, and Dakota Boelens; nephews, Jeremy Lindstrom, Keith Rhamy, and Mitch Quimby; great niece, Sarah

(Kyle) Christensen. He was predeceased by his mother, Patricia; biological father, John Dick; brothers-in-law, Thomas Shultz and Bob Fick. A Funeral Service for Ron was held at 11:00 AM on Friday, August 11, 2023 in the Daley Murphy Wisch and Associates Funeral Home and Crematorium, 2355 Cranston Road, Beloit, WI. The burial was in the East Lawn Cemetery. Visitation of Remembrance was held from 4:00 to 7:00 PM on Thursday, August 10, 2023 in the funeral home. Military Rites were accorded by the VFW Mead Allen Post #2306.



**DANIEL ARTHUR "Dan" "Danny" DORSHEIMER** - Died unexpectedly 7Saturday, September 23, 2023 at the Milton S. Hershey Medical Center in Hershey, Pennsylvania at the age of 75. He was a resident of Hummelstown, Pennsylvania. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania on February 21, 1948 to the late John J. and Mary (née Zellner) Dorsheimer. Dan worked for Coca Cola as a delivery driver. He was a 1966 graduate of Lower Dauphin High School. Dan was a United States Army Veteran, serving during the Vietnam War. He was a member of Calvary Baptist Church. A patriotic man, Dan was a member of the American Legion Post #265, Hummelstown; the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #3502, Hershey, and a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Harrisburg Chapter #542**, Rutherford. He enjoyed cars and was especially proud of his yellow Corvette. Dan also enjoyed playing shuffleboard and gardening and landscaping. He was an avid fan of Penn State and Lower Dauphin High School football and wrestling. Dan is survived by his loving wife of 32 years, Mary Frances (née Bahsteter) Dorsheimer, whom he married on July 13, 1991; his son, Sage M. Dorsheimer; and his brother, John L. Dorsheimer. A service to celebrate Dan's life was held on Thursday, September 28, 2023, at 10:30 AM in the Trefz and Bowser Funeral Home, Inc., 114 West Main Street, Hummelstown with the Rev. Stephen Coleman, his pastor, officiating. Inurnment with military honors was in Indiantown Gap National Cemetery, Annville. In remembrance of Danny, those desiring may send memorial contributions to the Calvary Baptist Church, 917 Wilhelm Road, Harrisburg, PA 17111.



**ROBERT J. "Bob" DUFFNEY, SR.** (USA, SFC-Ret.) – Died Monday, July 3, 2023 in the Hungry Hill section of Springfield, Massachusetts at the age of 84. He died at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield surrounded by the care and comfort of his loving family. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Boston, Massachusetts on April 5, 1939 to the late Irene E. (Duffney) Patson. He was raised and educated in Springfield where he lived most of his life. He served his country in the United States Army during the Vietnam War and attained the rank of Sergeant First Class. He received the Bronze Star Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm,

the Vietnam Campaign Medal with 60 Devices, the Vietnam Civil Action Honor Medal First Class, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, the Meritorious Unit Citation, the German Marksmanship Gold Badge and the Good Conduct Medal. Following his military service, he was employed as the Head Trainer for Needles Consultants in Baltimore, MD and retired in 2020. He was a member of the Bethesda Lutheran Church in Springfield, a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America - Springfield Chapter #111** and a founding father of the Vietnam American Vietnamese Association Pioneer Valley Chapter. Bob enjoyed riding his Harley on the open road and was a proud member of the Harley Davidson Owners Group. In his younger days, he was an amazing rollerskater and often was found at the former Rialto and the Roll-A-Way skating rinks. He enjoyed flying drones, flight simulation, performing magic tricks, playing the guitar and singing. Most of all, Bob treasured his time being with his wife, his family and his many friends. He leaves his beloved wife and best friend, Pauline D. (White) Duffney. They were married on January 21, 1961 at Holy Family Church in Springfield and were blessed with over 62 years of happiness together. He also leaves his four loving children, Robert J. Duffney, Jr. and his spouse, Frances, of Savannah, GA, Theresa A. Kane and her spouse, Patrick M. Kane, Sr., and Lisa R. Duffney and her partner, Derik D. Raiford, all of Springfield and AnnMarie Luc and her spouse, Hao, of Mount Pleasant, SC; his 12 cherished grandchildren, Robert Duffney III and his spouse, Lindsey, Leigh-Anne Duffney, Sarah Carroll and her spouse, Patrick, Amanda Kane-Colon and her spouse, Marisol Colon, Patrick "P.J." Kane, Jr. and his partner, Lora Hill, Samantha Alicea and her spouse, Abi Alicea, Xavier Reyes, Kianeesa Reyes, Kaylena Reyes, Elani Raiford and Cameron and Cassandra Luc; his four cherished great-grandchildren, Tierney and Brennan Carroll and Colton and Easton Alicea; and his many dear nephews, nieces, cousins, extended family members and friends. In addition to his mother, he was predeceased by his five dear siblings, Pamela, Sandra, Sheila, Paul and Susan. His family received friends on Monday, July 10, 2023 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM at the Saint Pierre-Phaneuf Springfield Chapels, 7 Chapin Terrace, Springfield, MA. His Funeral was held on Tuesday, July 11, 2023 beginning at the funeral home at 8:00 AM followed by a Funeral Service at 9:00 AM. His Committal Service with United States Army Military Honors was at 11:00 AM in the Chapel at the Massachusetts Veterans' Memorial Cemetery, 1390 Main Street, Agawam, MA. In lieu of flowers, his family requested that memorial donations be made in his memory to Saint Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 Saint Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105-9959 or the Springfield Rescue Mission, P.O. Box 9045, Springfield, MA 01102-9045. For more details and to leave his family condolence messages, please visit: [www.stpierrephaneuf.com](http://www.stpierrephaneuf.com).

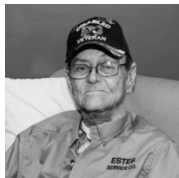


**WARREN VANCE ELLIOTT** - Died Monday, September 11, 2023 at his home in Soddy-Daisy, Tennessee at the age of 80. The cause of death was Agent Orange-related ischemic heart disease. He was born in Soddy on April 20, 1943 to the late Charles Homer Elliott and Mary Frances (née Millsaps) Elliott. Vance proudly served his country in the United States Army and was a veteran of the Vietnam War where he was a recipient of the Purple Heart, the Air Medal and the AFEM Medal. He retired from the Railroad before a career in law enforcement. He was an officer with the Soddy-Daisy Police Department and with Nuclear Security at Sequoyah Nuclear Plant. Vance was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Chattanooga Chapter**

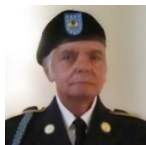


**#203** where he was a former Vice-President. Preceding him in death are his parents, Charles Homer Elliott and Mary Frances Millsaps Elliott; brothers, Charles Elliott and George Elliott and niece, Theresa Elliott. Survivors are his son, Kenneth Vance Elliott (Rhonda); daughter, Christie Lynne Elliott; mother of his children, Wilma Elliott; grandchild, Emerald McWilliams; great grandchild, Roy Vance Baker; nephew, Charles Roque Elliott (Debbie); nieces, Mary Charlene Hooker (Jeff) and Cynthia Gay Owens; great niece, Theresa; great nephews, Charlie and Parker and Josh and Chad and extended family. The family received friends on Thursday, September 14, 2023 from 4:00 to 8:00 PM at the funeral home. Services were on Friday, September 15, 2023 at 9:30 AM in the funeral home chapel with Chaplain Charles Ingle officiating. The burial was at Chattanooga National Cemetery. Military Honors were provided by the Honor Guard of the Vietnam Veterans of America - Chapter #203. Condolences and memories may be shared at [www.williamsonandsons.com](http://www.williamsonandsons.com). The arrangements were made by the Williamson and Sons Funeral Home, 8852 Dayton Pike, Soddy-Daisy, TN.

**HAROLD DEAN ERB** – Died recently 2023 in Machesney Park, Illinois at the age of 76. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Des Moines, Iowa on September 17, 1946. He served in the United States Marine Corps during the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Rockford Chapter #984**



**CHARLES LYNN ESTES** – Died Friday, July 21, 2023 in the Jackson-Madison County General Hospital in Jackson, Tennessee at the age of 73. He was a resident of Humboldt, Tennessee. The cause of death was heart failure. He was born in Dickson, Tennessee on May 2, 1950. Mr. Estes was an electrician, a United States Air Force Vietnam Veteran, a Gibson County Volunteer Fire Chief, a First Responder and a member of Christ Ministries. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Trenton Chapter #1124**. He is survived by his wife, Sandra Johnson Estes of Humboldt; a daughter, Mandy Estes Smith of Milan; a son, Charles Estes, Jr. (Malissa) of Humboldt; a sister, Patricia Howell of Humboldt; five grandchildren, Cody James (Hilary), Zach Estes (Marlene), Alex Estes (Sam), Savanah Smith and Addisen Smith; and five great-grandchildren, Kenai Estes, Colton James, Elorah Estes, Dakota Estes and Alaina James. Funeral services were held at 11:00 AM on Wednesday, July 26, 2023 in the Shelton-Hunt Funeral Home Chapel with burial in the Gibson County Memory Gardens. The visitation was on Tuesday from 5:00 until 7:00 PM.



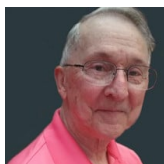
**ALAN L. FEIJO** - Died Sunday, September 3, 2023 in Swansea, Massachusetts at the age of 75, after a long illness. The cause of death was cancer. He was born on November 18, 1947 in Fall River, Massachusetts to the late Manuel and Emily (nee Pavao) Feijo. He was the beloved husband of Patricia (née Boucher) Feijo. Alan enlisted on April 15, 1968 in the United

States Army and completed his service through 1971. He served his country in the 11B Infantry in the Vietnam War. He was honorably discharged as SP4, he was the recipient of two Purple Hearts and received medals for Army Commendation, Vietnam Service, National Defense Service, Vietnam Campaign, a Sharp Shooter M14 and Expert M16. Alan was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Westport Chapter #207** and the VFW. Prior to his retirement, Alan was employed as a crystal finisher for Corning Glass Works for many years. He Enjoyed wood crafting and painting, and he was extremely talented within the art. He also enjoyed raising money for his veteran family with his grandson Ryker, which he did often. Most of all he had an amazing love for his family. Alan was the brother of the late Richard and Paul Feijo. He leaves behind two nieces, Robin and her husband Paul Mathieu and Donna and her husband Mark Mathieu. He is also survived by his stepchildren, Albert Proulx and his wife Kristine, Thomas Proulx and his wife Debbie, Christopher Proulx and his wife Lisa, Tracee Reed, John Reed and Melissa Reed; his eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Following cremation, a Memorial Service was held on Saturday, September 16, 2023 at 4:00 PM in the Boule Funeral Home, 615 Broadway, Fall River, MA. Visitation was held prior to the service from 1:00 to 4:00 PM. Please offer your condolences or a memory of Alan in our guestbook. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to Vietnam Veterans of America #207, P.O. Box 1214, Westport, MA 02790.

**PETER J. FIFER** - Died Monday, August 7, 2023 in the Pottstown Hospital - Tower Health in Pottstown, Pennsylvania at the age of 79. He was a resident of Birchrunville, Pennsylvania. The cause of death was cancer. He was born on July 19, 1944 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to the Leticia (née Ashworth) and Reverend Philip Fifer. Mr. Fifer was a 1962 graduate of Phoenixville High School. He went on to receive his Bachelor's degree in Physics from Bucknell University in 1966. Mr. Fifer honorably served during the Vietnam War in the United States Army, attaining the rank of Captain, from 1968-1969. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Phoenixville Chapter #436**. He was the owner and broker of Peter J. Fifer Real Estate in Phoenixville, and he was a faithful member of the St. Peter's Episcopal Church. Mr. Fifer had a love for photography and historical reading. He was a talented woodworker and a model train enthusiast, two hobbies he was proud to share with his grandchildren. Mr. Fifer was also an astronomer and had a fascination of all things in the sky. He enjoyed spending time with family and friends creating memories that will be cherished by all those who knew him. In addition to his wife of 56 years, Elizabeth A. (née Overstreet) Fifer, he is survived by three children, Andrew P., husband of Kathleen Fifer, Katharine M., wife of Nathan Heess, and Margaret A. Arsenich, partner of Kelle Smith; nine grandchildren, Philip (Alee), Rebecca (Collin), Zachary, Victoria, Jacob, Benjamin, Aaron, Caleb, and Ethan; three great-grandchildren; two siblings, William Fifer and Katharine, wife of Horace Kircher; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death three siblings, Helen Magargle, Christine Ziegler, and Henrietta Sparano. Relatives and friends were invited to attend his funeral service at the Saint Peter's Episcopal Church, 121 Church Street, Phoenixville, PA 19460 on Saturday, September 16, 2023 at 11:00 AM. Officiating was Father Samuel Ndungu. Friends were received in the Church from 10:00-11:00 AM. The burial was held privately. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Capital Campaign of Saint Peter's Church at the above address or via the following link: <http://saintpeterschurch.net>. The arrangements are being handled by the Campbell - Ennis - Klotzbach Funeral Home, Inc., Phoenixville, PA. Condolences may be offered online at [www.PhoenixvilleFuneralHome.com](http://www.PhoenixvilleFuneralHome.com).



**JAMES ERWIN “Jim” FISCHBACH** - Died Sunday, October 1, 2023 at home in Carthage, Tennessee at the age of 73. The cause of death is unknown. Mr. Fischbach was born on December 20, 1949 in Ventura, California to the late Richard Alvin Fischbach and Willie Ruth (née Blevins) Fischbach. He was the husband of Wanda Gibbs Graves. He was a beach kid and only came home when the streetlights came on. He was a member of the Swim Team at Buena High School in Ventura, CA. He served his country during the Vietnam War in the United States Air Force from 1968-1972 when he was honorably discharged. He then began a career with Grumman until 1989 then began working for various companies. His final career was with Lowes. Mr. Fischbach has been retired for the last ten years. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Soddy-Daisy Chapter #942**. He also volunteered at the VA in Chattanooga for several years. He enjoyed his family, friends, and NASCAR. Mr. Fischbach married Wanda Gibbs Graves on September 30, 2016. Mr. Fischbach is survived by Wife; Wanda Gibbs Graves of Carthage, TN. Children; Victoria (Chris Lewis) Linnea of Lebanon, TN, Andrea (AJ) Smithson of Lebanon, TN, and Erik Fischbach of California. Brother; Donald Richard (Linda) Fischbach of Fresno, CA. Grandchildren; Katherine Johns, Samuel Johns, Conner Smithson, Kaitlynn Fischbach, and Scarlett Fischbach. Sisters-in-Law; Debbie (Chip) Hailey and Donna Gibbs. Beloved Pet; Nekko. Memorial Services for Mr. Fischbach were conducted at 3:30 PM on Sunday, October 8, 2023, at the Rome Baptist Church.



**WAYNE JEROME FURMAN** - Died Tuesday, September 19, 2023 at his home in Breese, Illinois at the age of 79. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on November 15, 1943 in Rochelle, Illinois to the late Wendell and Hiskea “Carrie” (née Harms) Furman. He married Connie Gochee on August 15, 1964 in Lee, IL and she survives in Breese. In addition to his wife he is survived by his children, Robert, Steven, and Carmen; five grandchildren; one great-granddaughter; and his siblings, Kay, Loren (Ruth), and Wendell. In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by his siblings, Keith, Curtis, Rita, Doris, Joyce, and Carol. Mr. Furman was a veteran of the United States Air Force and then worked as a lab technician at Saint Joseph Hospital in Breese for over 43 years. Wayne was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Breese Chapter #269**. He loved to play golf. All services were private. Memorials may be made to Hospice of Southern Illinois and will be received at Nordike Funeral Home, 150 North Clinton Street, Breese, IL 62230 who is serving the family.

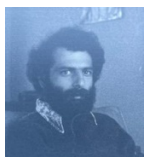


**EDD THOMAS FURR, SR.** (USA, MSG-Ret.) - Died Saturday, August 5, 2023 at Atrium Health Cabarrus in Concord, North Carolina at the age of 88. He was a resident of Concord. The cause of death is unknown. Edd was born on April 4, 1935 in Concord to the late Cleveland Monroe Furr and Vadie Martha (née McClelland) Furr. He was also preceded in death by eight siblings. Edd retired from the United States Army after serving 26 years at the rank of Master Sergeant. He was a member of the D.A.V. "Military was his life". He was a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Concord Chapter #909*. Edd is survived by his wife of 60 years, Mary Jo Lewis Furr; son, Edd T. Furr, Jr. and wife, Martha of Davidson; daughter, JoAnn F. Plott and husband, Dane of Concord; grandchildren, Sidney, Stevie, and Samantha Plott, and Shawn Johnson; great grandchildren, Kya and Kalea Johnson; and a number of extended family members. A graveside service was held at 11:00 AM on Friday, August 11<sup>th</sup> at the National Cemetery in Salisbury with military honors. The family received friends from 6:00 to 8:00 PM on Thursday, August 10<sup>th</sup> at the Wilkinson Funeral Home. Memorial may be made to the DAV Chapter #27, 2400 Rock Hill Church Road NW, Concord, NC 28027.



**WOLFGANG DIETER GECKELER** - Died Sunday, April 30, 2023 in Galloway, New Jersey at the age of 77, with his family by his side. He fought a noble battle with lung cancer. He will be missed by so many. Wolfgang was born on September 26, 1945 in Kirchheim-Teck in Württemberg, Germany to the late Ingeborg (née Boppert) Geckeler and Ernst Geckeler. He found his passion for cooking at a young age to help his mother and studied cooking at school. In his late teens he completed his apprenticeship to become a certified cook. Wolfgang came to the United States on May 1, 1965 at age 19 to work at The Hofbrau Haus, a German Restaurant in Philadelphia. He was drafted into the United States Army four months later, barely speaking English. He was stationed in Fort Hood, Texas before being deployed to Vietnam in 1967 and 1968 with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Armored Division, 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry, attached to the 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. He fought bravely in Vietnam. He was a Combat Vet and was exposed to Agent Orange. He was honorably discharged from the Army after his tour of duty in 1968. After returning to the states, Wolfgang continued to work at the Hofbrau Haus in NE Philly. Later he worked his way up in many top restaurants in Philadelphia. In 1969, he met the love of his life, Maria Boller. After a fiery courtship, they wed on January 14, 1973. They went on to have three wonderful children - Heidi, Nicole, and Jason. They opened a restaurant together in Easton, Pennsylvania called the Black Horse Tavern. Wolfgang later brought his family to Somers Point, NJ, joined the local PCASJ and worked in Atlantic City as a revered Chef starting at Bally's Casino under the tutelage of his friend and mentor, Master Chef Heiko Bendixon. He then went on to be the head Chef at the Showboat. He was certified in 1985 as a proud CEC with the ACF, and in 1998 he was inducted as a fellow into the American Academy of Chefs. Wolfgang has been an active member of the PCASJ, holding various positions such as President, Chairman of the Board, and Treasurer. In 2001, Wolfgang

went to Okinawa, Japan where he spent nearly 10 years as the Corporate Chef for Marine Corps Community Service. He proudly fed the members of Marine Corps. and their families. He made many friends there with all those in MCCC as well as the Okinawan community including Flight Deck festivals which included service members and the local community. He loved his time there and made many long-lasting friends for nearly 10 years. Wolfgang was a force of nature, determined to provide for his family, serve his community of Veterans, and take care of people in need with food made from the heart. Wolfgang influenced the lives of thousands over the years as a leader in both the culinary world, teaching and mentoring those who were willing to learn, and in service to fellow Veterans. He helped found the non-profit Chefs With A Mission. He worked closely with the Atlantic City food bank and even co-published a cookbook called Souper Chefs. He was featured in many publications and was the recipient of numerous awards. Some of his proudest are induction into the Honorable Order of the Golden Toque in 2006, the highest recognition a Chef can get within the culinary profession with only 100 members, the ACF Hermann G. Rusch Chef's Achievement Award from the American Culinary Federation in 2018, and the Lt. General John D. McLaughlin Award for being a retired member of the armed services who is an individual of high honor, distinction, and involvement in the culinary field in 2021. As a proud Army Veteran, Wolfgang was the leading force of organizing and putting together Stand Downs for Homeless Veterans. He worked tirelessly to help Veterans and their families get back on their feet. He supported many local programs and put smiles on the faces of countless hungry mouths with his delicious food and warm heart. His family is proud of the fact that he has touched so many lives. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Absecon Chapter #228**. Wolfgang was predeceased by his beloved daughter, Nicole. He is survived by his loving wife Maria, daughter Heidi (Junnie), son Jason (Laurie), three grandchildren Zackery (Natalie), Kasee (Joseph), and Genevieve, and four great grandchildren Gabby, Jada, Sophia, and Layla. His beloved cat Kimmie misses him dearly. Wolfgang was involved in many organizations. The family requests that, in lieu of flowers, donations are made to a go fund me account which will be dispersed to some of his causes. ([www.gofundme.com/to-honor-the-memory-of-chef-wolfgang-geckeler](http://www.gofundme.com/to-honor-the-memory-of-chef-wolfgang-geckeler)). Also, please consider donating to the following charities in Wolfgang's name: American Culinary Federation Professional Chef's Association of South Jersey Scholarship Fund. Send check payable to PCASJ or Professional Chefs Association of South Jersey and send to PCASJ P.O. Box 177, Absecon, NJ 08201 Last Salute – Military Funeral Honors For Our Fallen ([www.LastSalute.us](http://www.LastSalute.us)). Legion Riders – American Legion Veterans and Children Foundation (<https://mylegion.org/PersonifyEbusiness/Donate>). There was a memorial service at Wimberg Funeral Home - 211 East Great Creek Road, Galloway, NJ on May 20, 2023. A viewing and the service were held from 10:00 AM to 12:30 PM followed by a military burial at Atlantic County Veterans Cemetery - 189 NJ Route #50 South, Mays Landing, NJ at 1:15 PM. A repast was held at the VFW Post #220, 1209 Route 50 Mays Landing, NJ. All were invited from 2:00-6:00 PM for light food and refreshments.



**WILLIAM ANTHONY "Bill" GENSEL** - Died Tuesday, September 19, 2023 in Elmira, New York at the age of 78, following declining health. The cause of death is unknown. He was born



on July 18, 1945 in Elmira to the late, Harry and Anna Marie (née Dean) Gensel. Bill was a graduate of S.H.S. and went on to earn his bachelor's degree at Alfred State as a commercial artist. He was the proprietor of Tech Art in Elmira for many years. In service to his country, Bill served in the United States Army from 1965-1967 as well as the Peace Corps. In addition to art, Bill enjoyed photography and sports cars. He was a long-time member of The Saab Club of North America and a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America - Elmira Chapter 803*. Bill is survived by his loving daughters, Jacqueline (William) Morley, Horseheads and Melissa (Gary) Pyhtila, Odessa; six grandchildren, Samantha (Joseph) Figueroa, Zachary Morley, Tyler Morley, Amanda (Brandon Ruggiero) Morley, Amanda (Jesse) Rappleye and Zachary Pyhtila; four great-grandchildren, Easton and Grace Rappleye, Isadora and Fiorella Figueroa; brother, James (Joan) Gensel; and sister, Mary Ann Wyse; nieces and nephews, Jamie (Audra) Gensel, Jody (Jason) Shores, Kim Foley, Jeff (Kimberly) Foley; several great-nieces, nephews and close friends. In addition to his parents, Bill was predeceased by a brother, Harry J. Gensel. Bill was laid to rest privately in Woodlawn National Cemetery with military honors accorded Mr. Gensel.



**RONALD LEE "Ron" GOODPASTER** - Died Thursday, September 14, 2023 at his home in Dillsboro, Indiana at the age of 80, with his loving family by his side. The cause of death was cancer. Ron was born on November 25, 1942 in Milan, Indiana to the late Carl and Muriel (née Eaglin) Goodpaster. Ron married the love of his life, Linda (née Transier) Goodpaster on September 19, 1964 and she survives. Ron proudly served our country in the United States Army during the Vietnam War as a Staff Sergeant. Ron worked at the Aurora Post Office for 25 years and was the Postmaster for 10 years there as well. He was also employed at Seagrams for 10 years prior to working at the post office. During his retirement he also drove for Catch-A-Ride. He was a member of the American Legion Northcutt-Laaker Post #292, Aurora VFW Post #2629, Disabled American Veterans, and was also a *Founding Father* and *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Moores Hill Chapter #71*. Ron was a former member of the Aurora Lions Club where he was a past president and was also on the Farmers Fair Board. Ron enjoyed traveling, antiquing, antique cars, and being involved in many service organizations. Ron most of all cherished spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren. Ron will be missed by his loving wife, Linda Goodpaster of Dillsboro; daughters Regina (Reid) Hensley of Greendale and Rhonda (Richard Butler) Goodpaster of Greendale; brothers Robert Goodpaster of Dillsboro and Kenneth (Vedenna) Goodpaster of Aurora; sisters Janet Oak of Dillsboro and Kay (Jim) Scott of Aurora; grandchildren Kayla Hensley, Logan Hensley, Grant Hensley, Gabriel Hensley, Jessica (Nathan Straessle) Butler, Jonas (Danielle) Butler, and Celia Butler; and great-grandchildren Stella Straessle and Graham Straessle. Ron was preceded in death by his parents Carl and Muriel Goodpaster and sister Maryetta McClellan. Family and friends gathered in remembering Ron from 4:00-7:00 PM on Tuesday, September 19, 2023 at the Filter-DeVries-Moore Funeral Home in Dillsboro. Military rites were provided by The American Legion Northcutt-Laaker Post #292, Vietnam Veterans and South Eastern Indiana Honor Guard. A service followed at 7:00 PM with DJ Gilliland officiating. Memorials may be given in honor of Ron to Vietnam Veterans or Cancer

Fund. The Filter-DeVries-Moore Funeral Home was entrusted with the arrangements: 12887 Lenover Street, Box 146, Dillsboro, IN. Please visit our website at [www.filterdevriesmoore.com](http://www.filterdevriesmoore.com) to share your condolences and memories of Ron.

**LESLIE A. "Sonny" GORSUCH** – Died Saturday, August 19, 2023 in Aurora, Colorado at the age of 76. The cause of death was sepsis. He was born on May 27, 1947. He served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Aurora Chapter #1106**.

**DENNIS M. HARDIN** – Died recently in 2023 in Chiefland, Florida at the age of 74. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on March 4, 1949. He is survived by his wife, Sandra. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America = Alachua Chapter #1092**.



**JOSEPH GERARD "Joe" HARKNESS** - Died Thursday, September 12, 2023 in Georgetown, Texas at the age of 69. The cause of death was Alzheimer's disease. He was born on November 25, 1953. He is survived by his wife, Ginny. He served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Rochester Chapter #20**. A memorial service will be held on April 13, 2024 at the First Presbyterian Church of Chili, 3600 Chili Avenue, Rochester, New York. The funeral services were arranged by the Gabriels Funeral Chapel and Crematory in Georgetown, Texas.

**ALLEN B. HARVEY, SR.** - Died Monday, September 18, 2023 as a result of injuries sustained in a motorcycle accident. He was a resident of Clyo, Georgia and 77 years of age. Allen was born in Quincy, Massachusetts on July 5, 1946. He joined the United States Marine Corps on August 23, 1966 where he proudly and selflessly served in the Vietnam War. Allen loved spending time with his family, fighting for veterans' rights and riding his trike. He was a tough old Marine with the demeanor to match. Allen will be forever missed. The hole he leaves in the hearts of those who loved him will never be filled. Semper Fi, you did your time in hell, wait for us at the gates daddy! He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Hinesville Chapter #789**. Survivors include his son and daughter-in-law, Allen B. Harvey Jr. (Nina); daughter and son-in-law, Angel H. Stevenson (Bryan); grandchildren, Allen Harvey III, Michael Dodd, Richard Harvey, David Stevenson Jr., Jessie Smith, Joseph Smith, Tiffiney Sample, and Seville Johnson; 17 great-grandchildren; two brothers and sisters-in-law, Bobby Harvey (Carol) and Richard Harvey (Robbie), as well as several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his wife, Lois Harvey, and a grandson, Travis Smith. The visitation was on Friday, September 29, 2023 from 6:00 until 9:00 PM and on Saturday, September 30, 2023 from 10:00 AM until 1:00 PM at the funeral home. The funeral to honor Allen's life was held on Saturday, September 30, 2023 at 1:00 PM in the chapel of the funeral home. The arrangements were made by the Thomas C. Strickland and Sons Funeral Homes - West Chatham Chapel, 901 West Highway 80, Pooler, Georgia.



**MICHAEL T. "General" "Mike" HAWES** - Died Friday, September 29, 2023 in Saint Clair, Michigan at the age of 74. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on November 28, 1948 to the late Thomas and Mary Hawes. Mike honorably served his country in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. After being honorably discharged, Mike went on to be a federal employee for 30 years. He married Chris Bramlett (Somerville) on March 2, 1991. Mike was an active member in the American Legion Post #382, serving on their honor guard team for several years. He was a lifetime member of the Disabled American Veterans Chapter #12 in Port Huron, MI as well as a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America - Cottrellville Chapter #284**. In his spare time, he enjoyed watching football and hockey. He was always at his grandchildren's sporting events. He is survived by his wife, Chris Bramlett- Hawes; sons, Michael Hawes, Sean (Lisa) Hawse, Matthew Hawes; daughters, Tracy Kreutzer, Kimberly (Chris) Provost, Jennifer (Stelio) DeSnyder, Laura Bramlett, 12 grandchildren, 5 great grandchildren, niece, nephews, as well as several other family members and friends. He is preceded in death by his brother, Thomas Hawes. Visitation was held on Thursday, October 5<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 – 6:00 PM at the Young Funeral Home, China Township. A pass and review and military honors were conducted at 6:00 PM. In lieu of flowers memorials are suggested to American Legion Post #382 and Disabled American Veterans Chapter #12. To leave a message of comfort visit [www.youngcolonial.com](http://www.youngcolonial.com).



**WILLIAM ANTHONY "Tony" HAYES** - Died Monday, August 28, 2023 in Morristown, Tennessee at the age of 76. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Greeneville, Tennessee on March 4, 1947 to the late Bob and Pearl Hayes. Tony was a proud United States Army Veteran and served during the Vietnam War, a member of the Hamblen County Car Club, and a long-time plant manager at Young's Furniture Manufacturing. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Morristown Chapter #1073**. He was preceded in death by his parents, Bob and Pearl Hayes. He is survived by his wife of 54 years Kay Hayes; daughter, Traci (Jack) Lay; granddaughter, Mia Lay; brother, Mike (Vonda) Hayes; sister, Brenda Sullivan; brother-in-law's, Barry and Jimmy Myers; and many nieces and nephews. The family received friends on Thursday, August 31, 2023 from 5:00-7:00 PM in the East Chapel at Allen Funeral Home. Funeral services followed the visitation at 7:00 PM with Reverends Dannie Bell and Ray Pratt co-officiating. Army Military funeral honors and interment were held at 8:30 AM on Friday, September 1, 2023 in the East Tennessee State VA Cemetery off John Sevier Highway in Knoxville, TN.



**J.B. "Holly" HOLLINGSWORTH** – Died Sunday, August 20, 2023 in Brooktondale, New York, two days' shy of his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Brooklyn, New York on August 22, 1933 to the late John and Madeline Hollingsworth. Holly is

survived by his wife Patricia, his sons Larry and Tim and their families, stepsons Doug and Jeff Peckins and their families, as well as extended family members and many friends. His family meant the world to him, and although they were far-flung, he held them close in his heart and cherished time spent with them. Holly lived an interesting life of working and being fired - six times, he said - with employers ranging from Allen Tractor in Ithaca to Mohawk Airlines, Miliken Station, Ithaca Motors, High-Speed Checkweigher, and NCR. He had an ESSO station on Meadow Street and was a student at Cornell University until he "busted out" as he put it, after two years. In 1954, he volunteered for the draft and served in Company B, 714<sup>th</sup> Tank Battalion for two years, a stint of service that was a source of great pride and many memories. After all of that, and best of all, he sold "Genuine GI" at his store, Holly's Surplus in Ithaca. At last, his passion for America and everyone serving in the military found daily expression at this favorite "job." He often talked about missing the people he encountered there. He was a *Life Member* of **Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America – Dryden Chapter #377**. After closing his store in 2002, Holly's focus became Ithaca's DeWitt Park where members of Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter #377, his second family, volunteered to clean the park with an assist from Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. He spearheaded an effort to rededicate the park, an event that happened under sunny skies, between two days of rain, in October 2009. That day became "Holly Hollingsworth Day" by proclamation of Mayor Carolyn Peterson. One line may sound familiar: "Whereas, he exhibited strong leadership for the past three years, including a remarkable ability to cajole, persuade, and persist...." If the need were ever to arise again, Holly said, he'd be ready to send packages once again to American men and women in uniform. It's a project he had experience with, having packed and mailed nearly 900 boxes to the troops, beginning with Desert Storm. He insisted that others be given credit for their support and help, including Vietnam vets, people from the community and from Trinity Lutheran Church. Holly loved the Lord and had a hand in establishing Trinity Lutheran Church on Honness Lane, where he enjoyed worshipping with his "brothers and sisters." Humble and passionate and a servant at heart, he embodies the POW/MIA slogan: "You are gone but not forgotten." Calling hours were held on Thursday, August 24<sup>th</sup> from 9:00–11:00 AM at Trinity Lutheran Church. The funeral service was at 11:00 AM. The burial was in the Brookton Cemetery at 2:00 PM. The funeral arrangements were entrusted to the Bangs Funeral Home. Online condolences may be made to Holly's family at [www.bangsfuneralhome.com](http://www.bangsfuneralhome.com).



**HAROLD RANDALL HOLLOWAY, SR.** – Died Wednesday, August 16, 2023 in Ormond Beach, Florida at the age of 76. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in New York City, New York on April 28, 1947. He was surrounded by his wife, sons, brother, sister-in-law, and nephew. He served in the United States Navy from July 1964 to April 1968. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Daytona Beach Chapter #1048**. The Craig Flagler Palms Funeral Home in Ormond Beach was in charge of the funeral arrangements.



**RALPH DELMORE HORNE III** - Died Sunday, September 10, 2023 in Glandorf, Ohio at the age of 75. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Springfield, Ohio on January 18, 1948 to the late Ralph Delmore Horne, Jr. and Sara Jane (née Mallory) Horne. Ralph enlisted in the United States Army at a young age, inspired by a deep sense of duty and patriotism. His commitment to protecting the freedoms of our country was evident in the way he served. Ralph also demonstrated his dedication to the military by being an avid explorer of military history genealogy as well as family genealogy. Through Ralph's dedication he was able to trace the family history back to the Spanish-American war with multiple family members serving across multiple branches of the military. He had a commitment to preserving the past and bringing history to life for all who had the privilege of knowing him. Ralph was a dedicated person in all his endeavors, and it shows prominently in the way he lived his life. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Dayton Chapter #97**. In addition to his devotion to the military, Ralph had a passion for sports that was deeply rooted in his Ohio upbringing. He was an avid fan of the Cincinnati Bengals and the Cincinnati Reds, as well as the Ohio State Buckeyes. He could often be found cheering them on, bringing joy to those around him. Ralph is survived by his children Diana Velasco (James Cronkrite), Nichelle Young (Michael), Ralph Demore Horne IV, Quintin Horne, and Brittney Horne, his siblings Roberta Owings and Rick Horne, eleven grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. Visitation for Ralph was held on Sunday September 17<sup>th</sup> from 3:00-5:00 at Littleton and Rue Funeral Home. A graveside service took place on Monday the 18<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM at Dayton National Cemetery. In Ralph's memory, the family will forward any memorial contribution to a charity of their choice. To send flowers, leave online condolences, or to view Ralph's memorial video, please visit our website at [www.littletonandrue.com](http://www.littletonandrue.com).

**THOMAS P. HOWARD, JR.** – Died Sunday, September 15, 2023 in Green Cove Springs, Florida at the age of 72. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in New York City, New York on April 16, 1951. He served in the United States Marine Corps from 1970 to 1975. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Orange Park Chapter #1059**.



**JAMES RUSKIN HUGHBANKS** (USA, LTC-Ret.) – Died Friday, July 7, 2023 in Denton, Texas at the age of 86. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Crisfield, Harper County, Kansas on July 10, 1936. He is survived by his wife, Donna. He served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Denton Chapter 920**. Funeral services were arranged by the Mulvey-Bowles-Montgomery Funeral Home in Denton, Texas.

**RICHARD F. B. IGNACIO** – Died recently in 2023 in Temple, Texas at the age of 79. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on July 10, 1944. He is survived by his wife, Lois. He was a



veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Harker Heights Chapter #1000**.



**JOHN GLENN JAEGER** - Died Friday, April 7, 2023 in Port Sainte Lucie, Florida at the age of 69, after a long illness. The cause of death is unknown. John was born in Chicago, Illinois on October 9, 1953 to the late Glenn and Lena (née Cauello) Jaeger. He loved being around family, friends and coworkers. In his spare time, he loved photography, watching space launches, traveling and visiting friends, reading nonfictions books, and cooking for his loved-ones. His family included his sister, Carmen DeAngelis; (Brother and sister-in-law) John and Susan DeAngelis; nephew and nieces: Tony DeAngelis, Debbie Marks, Julie Wagner. He married Nancy Donehue on December 13, 1986. They resided in the Dallas area prior to moving to Port Sainte Lucie in 2002. John graduated from Lane Tech in Chicago and immediately enlisted in the United States Marine Corps from 1973-1978. While still serving in the Marines, he became a police officer in North Carolina. After his discharge from the Marines, he moved back to Chicago and was employed by the following companies: Emi Medical, Omi Medical TRW, Amsco STERIS, Centerbeam, GE and Paradigum/Pursuit. John was a member of the Marine Corps League, American Legion, Knights of Columbus and a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Port Sainte Lucie Chapter #566**. John is survived by his wife, Nancy and sister Carmen. A funeral mass was celebrated at Saint Bernadette Catholic Church on Monday, April 17, 2023 at 10:00 AM. John was laid to rest at the National Cemetery Grand Prairie, TX. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the following Military Association: VVA Chapter #566, PO BOX 7385, Port Sainte Lucie, FL 34952 or Jack Ivy Detachment, PO Box 7794, Port Sainte Lucie FL 34952-7794.



**RICHARD W. "Dick" JIMERSON** - Died Friday, August 18, 2023 in Brookings, Oregon at the age of 81, following a long battle with Parkinson's disease. He was born on December 15, 1941, in Scotts Bluff, Nebraska. Dick served in the United States Navy but was attached to the United States Marine Corps as a Prosthetic Technician during the Vietnam war. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Brookings Chapter #821**. He was also a member of Brookings Elks Lodge #1934. He is survived by his wife JoAnn, sons Rick and Evan, both of Idaho; also, a grandson Andrew Christian Jimerson and granddaughter Fiona Rose Jimerson. Memorials may be made to the Curry County Sheriff's Department, 94235 Moore Street, Suite #311, Gold Beach, OR 97444. Dick requested no services and was cremated under the direction of Redwood Memorial Chapel.



**ROBERT J. "Bob" KADLEC** - Died Saturday, September 30, 2023 in San Jose, California at the age of 82. The cause of death was respiratory failure due to complications related to cancer. Bob was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin on February 6, 1941 to the late Jerry Kadlec and Ruth (née Stauff) Kadlec. He graduated from Wauwatosa High School. He graduated with a degree in photography from Layton School of Art in Milwaukee, a BS in Aeronautics from Saint Louis University, and a Master of Arts in Business Management from Central Michigan University. Upon graduating college, he received his commission as a United States Air Force Intelligence Officer, serving overseas in the Middle East and Europe with the Air Force Security Service, and the Western Pacific with the 8<sup>th</sup> Air Force. He went on to a civilian career with Lockheed-Martin as a Systems Engineer in their Space Systems Division. Since retirement he has been doing research on the life of his great grandfather during the Civil War. Bob was Past Commander of the Phil Sheridan Camp Number 4 of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. He is a proud member of the Vietnam Veterans of America. As Vice President of the United Veterans Council he organized the largest Memorial Day Ceremony in Santa Clara County. He also organized a fundraising program for UVC for the annual Veteran's Day Parade in 2006, the largest parade of its kind in Northern California. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – San Jose Chapter #201**. Bob is survived by his sister, Ellen DuCharme (Ted); his niece Jennifer Wahlin (Mike); his nephew, Thomas Beischel (LaDonna), and; great-nieces and a great-nephew and other family and friends. Bob is preceded in death by his mother, Ruth Stauff Kadlec and father, Jerry Kadlec and sister, Kathleen. The family wishes to thank the VA Hospital Palo Alto, members of the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter #201, the United Veterans Council, Phil Sheridan Camp 4, friends and neighbors for their kindness and friendship to Bob during his life in California. The funeral service was held on Monday, November 6, 2023 at Oak Hill Funeral Home at 11:00 AM. Commitment of the ashes with Military Honors was at Oak Hill Cemetery.



**ALLEN J. "Al" KARL** - Died Sunday, February 12, 2023, at Holy Family Memorial Medical Center in Manitowoc, Wisconsin at the age of 90. He was a resident of Manitowoc. The cause of death is unknown. Al was born on December 5, 1932 in Manitowoc to the late Edward W. and Blanche G. (née Matczynski) Karl. Al worked at Manitowoc Equipment Works until entering the United States Army. He enlisted in January of 1952 and went to Fort Riley, Kansas, for basic training (E Company, 86<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment). After a short leave, Al was shipped overseas in 1952 to Korea (24<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division). While in Japan, he was called on to attend C.B.R. schooling (chemical, biological, radiological warfare training) in Camp Gifu, Japan. Following training completion, he was sent to Korea (reassigned to 40<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, 223<sup>rd</sup> Regimental Combat Team). Al was stationed in several areas in Korea including Heartbreak Ridge, Kumwan Valley (Iron Triangle), and Punch Bowl to name a few. After completing the necessary points, he left Korea for the U.S. in April of 1953. Al was separated and released from active military service on October 27, 1954. Al transitioned to the Army Reserves to fulfill his 8 years.

He was honorably discharged in February of 1960, completing active military service at Fort Lewis, Washington, with the rank of Sergeant. During his military service, he received the Korean Service Medal with two bronze service stars, United Nations Service Medal, National Defense Medal and the Combat Infantry Badge. On September 21, 1957 he married the former Ethyl Mayre Smith at Saint Mary Catholic Church, Manitowoc. Upon his return to Manitowoc, he returned to work at Manitowoc Equipment Works for a short period. He then began a 40-year career at Aluminum Goods Manufacturing, later known as Mirro Aluminum Company, later known as the Newell Corporation. Al began as a semi driver, later becoming a Supervisor and ended his career as Head Supervisor of Transportation. After retiring from Newell in 1996, he joined Culligan Water Company and worked in the office until again retiring in 2016 after 17 years. Al enjoyed being involved in many veteran's activities (donating much of his time), and enjoyed every minute and every story of service ever told! He joined the VFW Otto Oas Post #659 in 1952 (while in Korea), later becoming a lifetime member. Al was a five-time VFW Post Commander (1986, 1988, 2000, 2001, 2002) and several other positions including currently Post Quartermaster. He was the VFW all-state Commander in 2001-2002. He also joined the American Legion Post #88 in 1954, serving in several of those post offices, and was also on the Manitowoc County Legion Adjutant for one year. Al was also a charter member of the Polish Legion of American Vets Post #214 as treasurer before it was dissolved. He was also a lifetime member of the AMVETS Post #99, a member of the "pup tent 34" military order of the cooties, and a two term Seam Squirrel (Commander) before it too was dissolved. He was presently a member of "pup tent 23" out of Green Bay. Al was also a member of 40/8 Voiture #1130, Chef DeGarr (Commander) for two terms, as well as many other offices for the organization. He was currently a member of 1434 of Calumet County. Al was also honored to be an *Associate Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Manitowoc Chapter #731*. Al was on the memorial committee (1985) to solicit donations and build the current Manitowoc County Veterans Memorial and care for the memorial after completion. He was active for many years as secretary – then treasurer of the Veterans Council. Al also served as a member of the Manitowoc County Veterans Commission. He was awarded the very first Manitowoc County Veteran of the Year in 2003. Al was a member of the Fraternal Order of the Eagles – Aerie 706 and a past member of the NRA, and Seagulls Club. He was a very proud member of the Manitowoc Honor Guard for the VFW and American Legion Post. Al enjoyed deer hunting with family and friends, as well as summer fishing – because ice fishing memories are just of the cold. He particularly enjoyed these hobbies at a family cabin by Hayward, WI. Most of all, he loved to spend time with his grandchildren and great grandchildren. He loved to watch his beloved Packers and was in attendance for the famous "Ice Bowl." Al also liked to watch the Badgers and Braves, eventually becoming a Brewers fan. He attended many games and proudly commanded the Honor Guard for the VFW Post #659 during the Flag Presentation during opening ceremonies at both County Stadium and Miller Park. Al was an appreciative participant in the Honor Flight in October of 2014 to Washington D.C. Al loved his family (both blood and military) unconditionally. He loved his community and he loved to give his all for all of them! There will never be another like Allen J. Karl. And we are all the better for having known him! Survivors include his wife: Ethyl Karl; three daughters: Patricia, Michelle and Brenda; eight grandchildren; several great-grandchildren; three sisters: Geraldine Soch, Mary Herrmann, Margie (Vern) Teresin; and one sister-in-law: Doris Hartman. Nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends also survive. He was preceded in death by his parents; one sister: Delores

(Henry) Pozorski; one brother: Elroy Karl; five brothers-in-law: Roger Hynek, Andrew Herrmann, Donald Soch (and his son Michael), Paul Hoffman, and Walter Hartman. Funeral Services were held at 11:00 AM on Wednesday, February 22, 2023 at the Pfeffer Funeral Home, 928 South 14<sup>th</sup> Street, Manitowoc. Officiating at the service was Deacon Alan Boeldt with burial at the Evergreen Cemetery, Manitowoc. Military Honors were accorded at the cemetery. The family greeted relatives and friends at the Pfeffer Funeral Home, Manitowoc, on Wednesday from 9:00 until 11:00 AM. This event was livestreamed and can be viewed by visiting: <https://www.facebook.com/LakeshoreFamilyFH/>. The Lakeshore Family Funeral Homes, Pfeffer location assisted the family with funeral arrangements. Expressions of sympathy may be sent to the family by visiting [www.lakeshorefamilyfuneralhomes.com](http://www.lakeshorefamilyfuneralhomes.com).

**GERALD LEE "Jerry" KERVIN** - Died Thursday, July 27, 2023 in Orlando, Florida at the age of 76. He was a resident of Kissimmee, Florida. The cause of death was cancer. He was born in Kissimmee on September 27, 1946. He served in the United States Army from November 8, 1965 to March 24, 1972 with tours of duty in Vietnam from September 5, 1966 to May 24, 1967 and from May 16, 1969 to April 13, 1970. He was a *Life Member* and *Charter Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Kissimmee Chapter #755**. He also was the co-founder of the Museum of Military History in Kissimmee. He is survived by his beloved wife Mary Kervin as well as extended family and friends. Private cremation services. Gerald will forever be remembered and loved by all those who knew him. May he rest in peace. Funeral services entrusted to Osceola Memory Gardens Funeral Home & Crematory, 1717 Old Boggy Creek Road, Kissimmee, FL. For online condolences please visit: [www.OsceolaMemGds.com](http://www.OsceolaMemGds.com).

**HAROLD W. KLENK** – Died Saturday, October 7, 2023 in Ypsilanti, Michigan at the age of 79. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on April 16, 1944. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Ann Arbor Chapter 310**.

**GEORGE JOSEPH KNOX** - Died Monday, July 3, 2023 in Maggie Valley, North Carolina at the age of 79. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on November 12, 1943. He served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Cullowhee Chapter #980**. Memorial contributions may be made in George's memory to Haywood Pathways Center at 179 Hemlock Street, Waynesville, NC 28786 or at <https://www.haywoodpathwayscenter.org/how-can-i-help/>. Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at [www.garrettfuneralsandcremations.com](http://www.garrettfuneralsandcremations.com) for the Knox family.

**ROBERT JAMES KRESS** - Died Thursday, July 27, 2023 at the Morning Star Assisted Living Center in Rapid City, South Dakota at the age of 78. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on April 29, 1945. He is survived by his wife, Janice. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Rapid City Chapter #463**. The Behrens Wilson Funeral Home and Crematory in Rapid City was in charge of the arrangements.

**JAMES LEONARD KUEBLER** – Died Saturday, May 13, 2023 in Overland City, Kansas at the age of 75. The cause of death is unknown. He is survived by his wife. He was a veteran of the Vietnam

War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Kansas City (Missouri) Chapter #317**.



**RICHARD P. "Richie" LAUER** – Died Friday, September 8, 2023 in the Brooklyn VA Medical Center, Brooklyn, New York at the age of 76. He was a resident of Staten Island, New York. The cause of death was cancer. He was born on November 18, 1946 in Sheepshead Bay, Brooklyn, New York. He was affectionately known as Richie, a devoted partner, father, grandfather, great-grandfather. Richie was a generous, caring, loving man who loved to tell jokes and bring smiles to everyone around him, beloved by all, always ready to lend a helping hand. His jovial spirit was infectious, leaving a lasting impression on everyone he met. He was a passionate man who lived his life to the fullest, enriching the lives of those around him with his wisdom and humor. Richie is survived by his long-term girlfriend, Mary, his son Raymond, daughter-in-law Joanne, grandchildren Raymond, Christina, Christopher and Nicole, great grandchildren Mason and Stefan, sister Dawn. Richie also had another family he loved they are his fellow Seabees and Veterans from the Brooklyn VA. His love for his family and friends was evident in his actions and sacrifices he has made to ensure their happiness and well-being. He was a loyal friend, always ready to offer support or a kind word. His presence was a constant source of comfort and joy to those who knew him. In his professional life, Richie was known for his diligence and determination. His strong work ethic was admired by his colleagues and served as an inspiration for many. He was a retiree manager with NYNEX and Time Warner. Despite his many accomplishments, he remained humble and grounded. He served as a member of the United States Navy Seabees and was a Combat Veteran of Vietnam 66-68. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Brooklyn Chapter #72**. Richie enjoyed life and lived it to the fullest. He like to spend time taking his family out to eat, Wednesday morning breakfast with friends, monthly Swarm get togethers. He had many hobbies and interests like traveling across this country on his many Harleys and RV's, traveled to many countries around the world, scuba diving, flying small planes, flying remote controlled aircraft's, he also loved his toys, cars and Harley Davidsons. He was a big kid that never grew up but most of all he was a fighter he left this world fighting one hell of a fight and those that know him know he left on his terms. Richie's passing is a great loss to all who knew him. His memory will live on in the hearts of those he touched, a testament to a life well-lived. His spirit, strength, and love for life will continue to inspire and guide us. We mourn the loss of Richie, but we also celebrate his life, cherishing the memories and lessons he left behind. Rest in peace, Richie. Your legacy will forever remain in our hearts. In lieu of flowers and mass cards the family request donations to Tunnel to Towers.

**DAVID EDWIN "Dave" LEACH** – Died Sunday, August 27, 2023 at the Corning Center for Rehabilitation in Corning, New York at the age of 75. He was a resident of Elmira, New York. The cause was multiple organ failure due to cancer. He was born on July 7, 1948 in Elmira to the late Earl Edwin and Vera Louise (née Copp) Leach. David is survived by his loving and devoted wife, Shirley Leach; beloved son, Michael Leach; 2 adored grandchildren. Dave was a Veteran of the



United States Air Force proudly serving his country from 1968 to 1974 during the Vietnam War. He retired from Hardinge Inc. after several years of dedicated service. Dave very much enjoyed car shows and collecting classics of his own. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Elmira Chapter #803** and often volunteered at the museum. Family and friends were invited to gather at the Barber Funeral Home, 413 South Main Street, Horseheads, NY on Thursday, September 7, 2023 at 1:00 PM to Celebrate his life. VVA member and friend, Joe Kopac officiated. The interment took place on Tuesday, September 12, 2023 in the Olliffstown Rosemary Church Cemetery in Metter, GA.

**LARRY THOMAS LEGG** – Died recently in 2023 in Pensacola, Florida at the age of 74. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on December 8, 1948. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Torrance (California) Chapter #53**. The Faith Chapel and Crematory in Pensacola was in charge of the arrangements.

**JOSEPH P. LONG** – Died Sunday, September 15, 2023 in Las Vegas, Nevada at the age of 71. The cause of death was oral cancer. He was born in Knoxville, Tennessee on December 15, 1951. He served in the United States Air Force from January 19, 1973 to April 30, 1994. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Knoxville Chapter #1078**.



**JAMES WESLEY LOPEZ** – Died Monday, October 22, 2023 in Rosedale, Maryland at the age of 74. The cause of death was cancer. He was born on September 18, 1949. He was the beloved husband of Maureen M. (née Stigliani) Lopez; devoted father of Ross Lopez and his fiancée Marie Kaufman and stepfather to Burton Hiebler; dear brother of Lynne Surratt, Jeanne Gipprich, Elizabeth Trommer, Allen Lopez and the late Ross Lopez, Jack Lopez and Margaret Lopez; loving grandfather of Hailey Lopez, Gabriella Kaufman and Benjamin Kaufman; dear uncle of Cody Wolfe and Taylor Chamberlain; great uncle to Wren Wolfe and great uncle to many nieces and nephews; brother-in-law to Michele Wolfe and the late Bryan Wolfe. He served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Edgemere Chapter #965**. Visitation was held on Wednesday from 2:00-4:00 PM and from 6:00-8:00 PM at the Cvach/Rosedale Funeral Home, 1211 Chesaco Avenue. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Thursday at 11:00 AM at Saint Clement Mary Hofbauer Church (Rosedale). The entombment was in Holly Hill Memorial Gardens Cemetery.



**JAMES LESLIE “Jimmy” “Jim” MACK** - Died Tuesday, August 1, 2023 at the Hospice of Dayton, Ohio at the age of 78. He was a resident of Centerville, Ohio. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Dayton on July 11, 1945. Jim was a graduate of Patterson Co-op as well as Wright State University. He served his country during the Vietnam War, in the United

States Army. He was a member of Dayton Lodge #147 F. & A.M., Scottish Rite Valley of Dayton, Dayton Victory Chapter # 410 O.E.S. Jim was an active Noble at the Antioch Shrine Temple. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Dayton Chapter #97**. Preceded in death by a brother, Joe Mack, two sisters, Catherine and Susan. Jim is survived by his wife of 56 years Judy (née Whipp) Mack, three brothers, John Mack Jr. Bob Mack and Tom Mack, and numerous nieces, nephews, family and dear friends. Funeral Services were held at 11:30 AM on Saturday, August 5, 2023 at the Woodland Mausoleum Chapel. The family received friends on Friday from 5:00 to 8:00 PM at the Baker-Hazel and Snider Funeral Home, 5555 Philadelphia Drive at North Main Street. In lieu of flowers contributions may be made to Shriner's Children's of Ohio Hospital in Jim's memory. Online condolences for the family may be sent to [www.bakerhazelsnider.com](http://www.bakerhazelsnider.com).



**JAMES D. MANGINE** - Died Sunday, August 27, 2023 in May's Landing, New Jersey at the age of 78. The cause of death was ischemic heart disease. James was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on November 2, 1944 to the late James Mangine and Matilda Mangine. He was a loving and devoted husband, father, grandfather, and friend to all who knew him. He was an honorable and respected man who was admired by many. He served in the United States Army from 1965 to 1968 with a tour of duty in Vietnam from 1967 to 1968. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Absecon Chapter #228**. James is predeceased by loving parents, James Mangine and Matilda Mangine and brother Richard. He led a remarkable life, full of love, laughter, and countless cherished memories. James was a devoted partner to his beloved wife Eleanor Mangine for more than 30 years and together, they blended a beautiful family. He was a proud father to his three children, Steve (Leslie), Drew (Jennifer), Jill, and stepson Scott (Frannie). James was also a doting grandfather to his eight grandchildren, Noelle, Allyson, Matthew, Brooke, Lincoln, James, Madeline, and Liam, who filled his life with immense joy and laughter. He adored his grandchildren, always embracing the chance to spend time with them, share stories, and impart his wisdom. James also enjoyed a loving relationship with his loving nieces and nephews. One of James' proudest achievements was his service in the Army. Jim was a proud SP 5 veteran of the United States Army, having served in the Vietnam War and being stationed in Korea. He dedicated his time and effort to protecting and serving his country while in the Army, leaving an indelible mark on those he encountered during his military journey. James was a hardworking man who worked as a Verizon technician and served as the CWA Union Unit President. In retirement, Jim was an active member of the Somers Point VFW Post 2189, a member of the post's Honor Guard, a lifelong Philadelphia Phillies fan, and an avid golfer. He had a true zest for life, always eager to explore new places, try new foods, and engage in lively conversations with family and friends. James will be fondly remembered as a vibrant soul with an infectious sense of humor. He had a knack for making people laugh, bringing smiles to their faces even in the toughest of times. His positive outlook on life and kind heart touched the lives of many. As we say goodbye to our dear James, let us remember him for the love and laughter he brought into our lives. His legacy will continue to live on through his children and grandchildren who will forever cherish the memories they shared together. A viewing was held

on Tuesday, September 5, 2023 from 10:00 AM–12:00 Noon at the Boakes Funeral Home, 6050 Main Street, Mays Landing, NJ, with a service beginning at Noon. The burial was at the Atlantic County Veterans Cemetery, Estell Manor. In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting donations be made in Jim's name to the Penn Medicine Cardiovascular Medicine Fund at <https://giving.aws.cloud.upenn.edu>. Donations can also be mailed to: Penn Medicine Cardiovascular Medicine Fund, 3535 Market Street, Suite #750, Philadelphia, PA 19104. In the memo line please write "in Memory of James D. Mangine".



**RONALD CLYDE "Ronnie" "Ron" MARTIN** - Died Sunday, August 13, 2023 at his home in Cornelius, Oregon at the age of 74. The cause of death is unknown. Ron was born on October 29, 1948 in Sacramento, California, the youngest of four children to the late Marvin and Margie (née Cook) Martin. He was raised in Sacramento and attended Bela Vista High School graduating with the Class of 1966. Ron then enlisted into the United States Navy and served his country in Vietnam. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Portland Chapter #392**. He met his future wife, Sue (Ward) Martin while in Gaston and they soon began dating. They married on August 29, 1975 in Forest Grove and have made their home in the Forest Grove and Cornelius Area. Ron had worked in construction all of his life working for various companies. He enjoyed hunting moose elk or deer. He loved to spend time in the woods looking for his next trophy. He loved to read, listen to music and go fishing. He was an avid 49ers and Giants fan. He is preceded in death by his parents and two children Tom Martin and Anna Christine Donovan. He is survived by his loving wife, Sue, three siblings, Sharon Martin, Peggy Gregson and her spouse Rich, Carol Martin, four grandchildren, Allison, Katie, Ryan and Bradley, and two favorite cousins Susie and Sam.



**McCLURE G. "Gunny" MATHEWS, JR.** – Died Saturday, July 8, 2023 in The Villages, Florida at the age of 80 after a courageous battle with pulmonary fibrosis. Gunny was born on November 26, 1942 in Sandusky, Ohio to the late McClure G. Mathews, Sr. and Elizabeth M. Mathews. Gunny proudly served in the United States Marine Corps for 30 years including two tours in Vietnam. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Oxford Chapter #1036**. He continued serving his local community in Fort Myers, FL with two Fire Departments for 22 years. Gunny finally retired with his wife Barbara in The Villages in 2020. Gunny is survived by his wife Barbara, four children: Chris, Brian, Mark, Mike; two grandchildren: Leo, Micah; two nieces: Tami Schultz and Sherri Marshall. Gunny was a kind and helpful person and was loved by all who knew him. He enjoyed sharing stories with the guys at the VVA Breakfast on Parr Drive.

He will be greatly missed. Services were held at the convenience of the family. In lieu of flowers, please donate to Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter #1036: <https://vva1036.weebly.com/>. The arrangements were entrusted with Baldwin Brothers Funeral and Cremation Society-Spanish Springs. Sentiments are encouraged at [www.baldwincremation.com](http://www.baldwincremation.com).



**DAVID C. McCRUM** - Died Saturday, April 8, 2023 in Waterboro, Maine at the age of 72. The cause of death was lung disease. He was born in Hyannis, Massachusetts on January 9, 1951 to the late Clayton and Elinore (née Bowen) McCrum. He grew up in Cape Cod, MA and Saco, Maine attending Thornton Academy. Later in life David got his Associates Degree at ITT Technical Institute. David served in the United States Army for 20 years, he later was employed by the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard and was self-employed as a kitchen specialist for many years. He was an *At-Large Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Maine**. David grew up playing Saco Little League and eventually became a coach, umpire, groundskeeper and league President. David enjoyed watching his children and grandchildren play sports. He loved routing for his favorite teams the NY Giants, Boston Celtics and Notre Dame. Most of all he enjoyed spending time with family and friends. David was predeceased by both of his parents, sisters Nancy Bourbeau and Marie Foran, brother James McCrum, brother-in-law Gerry Wentworth and sister-in-law Elizabeth Williams. He is survived by his loving wife of 49 years Virginia McCrum, son Jared McCrum and wife Angie, daughter Jennifer Avallone and husband Chad, Grandchildren Cameron, Lucian, Dominic, Nora, Declan and Miranda, and a Great-Grandson on the way. He is also survived by siblings Larry McCrum and wife Dianne, Eileen Wentworth, Patti Mullen and husband Russell, Michael McCrum and Laurie Thacher, brother-in-laws James Harrold and Tom Harrold, sister-in-law RuthAnn Gould, as well as many nieces and nephews. Visitation was from 12:00 Noon-1:00 PM with a Funeral Service at 1:00 PM on Monday, April 17, 2023 at the Cote Funeral Home Chapel, 87 James Street, Saco. The burial was in Laurel Hill Cemetery in Saco. After the burial, a reception was held at the Elks Lodge at 68 Ocean Park Road, Saco. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in David's name to the American Lung Association [https://action.lung.org/site/Donation2?df\\_id=31271&mfc\\_pref=T&31271.donation=form1](https://action.lung.org/site/Donation2?df_id=31271&mfc_pref=T&31271.donation=form1). To view David's memorial page or leave an online condolence, please visit [www.cotefuneralhome.com](http://www.cotefuneralhome.com).



**JOHN RODNEY McJUNKIN III** - Died Saturday, August 26, 2023 at Saint Rita Medical Center, Lima, Ohio at the age of 74. He was a resident of Saint Marys, Ohio. The cause of death

was cancer. He was born on December 4, 1948 in Sidney, Ohio to the late John Rodney McJunkin, Jr. and Paulette (née Collins) McJunkin. He married Marcia Schneider on August 31, 1973 at Saint Lawrence Catholic Church in Rhine, Ohio, and she survives at the residence. He is also survived by his daughters: Michelle (Jason) Hawkins of Perrysburg, Ohio; Nicole Gannon of Troy, Ohio; by his four grandchildren: Madison and Jillian Hawkins; Caleb and Chloe Baughman. He is survived by his brother, Jerry McJunkin; by his sisters-in-law, Susan Schneider; Deb (Mark) Egbert; by his brother-in-law, Greg (Vickie) Schneider; by several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents and by a brother-in-law, Gary Schneider. John was a 1967 graduate of Saint Marys Memorial High School. He served in the United States Army and was deployed to Vietnam during the war. He retired from Verizon. John was a very active member of the American Legion Post #323, Saint Marys. He had served on the Auglaize County Veterans' Service Commission and was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Wapakoneta Chapter #1126**. He was well known around the area as the "phone man". He was a member of Saint Patrick's Catholic Church in Glynnwood. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at 11:00 AM on Thursday, August 31, 2023, John and Marcia's 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary, at Saint Patrick's Catholic Church in Glynnwood with Reverend Father Stephen Jones, as celebrant. The burial, with military honors, was at Greenlawn Cemetery in Wapakoneta. Friends visited from 3:00-7:00 PM on Wednesday and from 9:30-10:30 AM on Thursday at the Miller Funeral Home, 1605 Celina Road, Saint Marys, where memorial gifts may be given to Saint Patrick's Catholic Church. Condolences may be sent to John's family via [Millerfuneralhomes.net](http://Millerfuneralhomes.net).



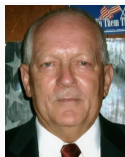
**PATRICIA JEAN "Patty" MEADUS** - Died Monday, August 7, 2023 in Blakeslee, Pennsylvania at the age of 71, with her children at her side. She fought a long battle with cancer. She was born on October 30, 1951. She was preceded in death by her husband, James E. Meadus, a Vietnam Veteran. She is survived by her children James Meadus, his wife Amanda, their daughter Madison, Patricia's other son Scott Meadus and his girlfriend Jamee O'Brien. Patty was a graduate of Wilkes University with a Bachelors of Arts degree in journalism as well as Associate degrees in applied sciences. She was employed at the Pocono Record for many years. Patricia was an avid volunteer giving of her time, energy, and resources to her community by being a part of programs such as the PTA, a *Life Member* of **Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America – Stroudsburg Chapter #678**, and volunteer with Valor. Patricia enjoyed spending time with friends and family talking over a cup of coffee. Patricia loved life and lived it fully without complaint. She was a loving humble woman yet her presence commanded dignity and respect everywhere she went. She was deeply loved by all who knew her, and will be dearly missed. The visitation for Patricia Jean Meadus was held at Marine Park Funeral Home on Sunday, August 13, 2023, from 2:00 to 5:00 PM and from 7:00 to 9:00 PM. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at Saints Simon and Jude Roman Catholic Church, 185 Van Sicklen Street, Brooklyn, NY on Monday, August 14, 2023, at 9:45 AM. The Committal Service was at Calverton National Cemetery.





**STEPHEN KALMAN "Steve" MELTZER** (USAF, MAJ-Ret.) – Died Thursday, July 6, 2023 LaSalle, Michigan at the age of 79. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on April 30, 1944 in Greenville, North Carolina to late Edwin Meltzer and Barbara (née Keuzenkamp) Meltzer. He graduated from Rancocas Valley Regional High School in Mount Holly, New Jersey in 1962 where he was a star basketball player on a Championship team. Steve went on to play basketball for Texas Christian University, graduating with the degree of Bachelor of Business Administration in 1966. Steve then valiantly served his country by joining the United States Air Force. He did his pilot training at Webb Air Force Base in Big Springs, Texas in 1967. His service included two tours of duty in Vietnam and one in South America. He flew the C-130 transport plane and was ultimately promoted to Training Captain, giving him the opportunity to train other pilots to fly the C-130. Steve received the Air Medal for his meritorious achievement while serving in Viet Nam. He also earned the South Vietnamese Medal of Honor, and the Second Cluster Air Medal. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross in 1971 for his mission involving the medical extraction of two seamen severely burned on their ship in the Pacific south of Panama City in the Canal Zone. Steve was very proud of his military service and was honored to serve the country he loved. He left the Air Force with the rank of Major after several years in the Reserves. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Monroe Chapter #142**. On November 6, 1971, Steve married the love of his life, the former Elaine Allison Dean of Hudson, Ohio. Their only son, David Matthew, born in 1982, was his pride and joy. The couple enjoyed their home on Lake Erie since 1978. Steve and Elaine for the last ten years shared the snowbird life going back and forth to their condo on the Atlantic in New Smyrna Beach, Florida. Steve had loved the water since he was young when he tested boats for his dad who built them. He owned many boats over the years, and they enjoyed many family vacations on the water. After leaving the Air Force, Steve spent most of his years flying as a civilian. He was an Air Reserve Technician at air bases in Houston and Philadelphia teaching Air Reservists how to fly the C-130. He moved on to fly cargo for Zantop International at Willow Run, Michigan. His most enjoyable experience was flying Captain for Midway Airlines in Chicago, where he was called on to train new pilots to fly the DC-9. He loved talking about airplanes with friends. Many of the pilots he trained told him how he made a big contribution to their successful careers. Steve was a man of conviction and determination. When he saw a problem, he met it head on. He spearheaded the movement for the successful retention of the Parks and Beaches for the use of his community of North Shores. He helped his condominium Moontide through some challenges over the years. He gave himself totally into whatever he set out to do. He loved his family and friends wholeheartedly and will be sadly missed. Stephen Kalman Meltzer, age 79, of LaSalle, Michigan, passed away peacefully on July 6, 2023, at Hospice of Northwest Ohio. His passing was preceded by his parents and a brother, Gary. Left to cherish his memory, he is survived by his wife of fifty-one years: Elaine; a son, David (Marianne), and a beloved 5-year-old granddaughter, Stella. A graveside service was held at Noon on Saturday; July 15, 2023 at Roselawn Memorial Park, Section G, 13200 South Dixie Highway, La Salle, Michigan under the auspices of the Monroe Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #1138. At 1:00 PM a Celebration of His Life followed at Laroy's Hall, 12375 South Telegraph Road,

La Salle. Family, friends, and neighbors are all invited to attend. His care was entrusted to Merkle Funeral Service, South Monroe; 14567 South Dixie Highway, Monroe, Michigan. Cremation took place through the on-site crematory, Covenant Cremation of Erie, Michigan. Donations may be made in his memory to Hospice of Northwest Ohio, 30000 East River Road, Perrysburg, OH 43551. Online guests may visit [www.merklefs.com](http://www.merklefs.com) to leave words of inspiration and comfort or to share a photo.



**JAMES A. "Jim" "Jimmy" MILLER, JR.** - Died Wednesday, August 2, 2023 at JFK Medical Center in Edison, New Jersey at the age of 79, surrounded by his loving family. He was a resident of Edison. The cause of death is unknown. James, known to most as Jim or Jimmy, was born in Newark, New Jersey on June 21, 1944 to the late James A. Miller, Sr. and Mae (née Smith) Miller. Jim grew up in Newark and spent time in the United States Navy before meeting and marrying the love of his life, Phyllis. The two lived in Belleville and Nutley before settling down in Edison 51 years ago. Jim was employed by the NJ State Department of Transportation as a Regional Electrical Supervisor in Trenton for almost 50 years before retiring in 2013. An enthusiastic traveler, Jim took many trips with his wife, his family and his close friends. Their family trips to Florida always included a stop at South of the Border for a little driving break and a lot of laughs—especially the pictures on the donkey. Jim loved his family and spending time with them. He enjoyed all their outings together which consisted of anything from crabbing to amusement/water parks to haunted hayrides. Jim always made sure to ride the Log Flume and the Lazy River at the parks, two of his most favorite rides. He was a proud family man and loved watching his family grow and build memories together. Jim was also an avid NY Yankees and Green Bay Packers fan. For many years he also enjoyed watching and attending WWF wrestling. Jim played an active role in many organizations throughout his life, including; Edison Jaycees, Moose Lodge, Edison Angels, Boy Scouts, Knights of Columbus, The American Legion and the VFW. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – New Brunswick Chapter #233**. He was a communicant of Saint Matthew's Roman Catholic Church where he served as a Eucharistic Minister as well as serving in the Pre-Cana and Social Ministry programs. Jim was part of the Edison Stelton Seniors and enjoyed socializing and sharing stories with other members during their gatherings and going out to eat afterwards. Jim is survived by his wife of 58 years, Phyllis (née LaFiura) Miller; his three children, John R. Miller of Edison, Paula (Chris) Woodlee of Manahawkin and Renee Miller-Deene of Lebanon; his siblings, Al (Donna) Miller of Metuchen, John (Jenny) Rosetti of Toms River and Alexis (Bobby) Lyons of Hopelawn; seven grandchildren, Tom (Corissa) Woodlee, Ashley (Jon) Kuligowski, Samantha (Matt) Bella, Jesse Deene, Tim Woodlee, Jaime (Josh) Klenk and Sabrina Woodlee; and five great-grandchildren, Jace, Brycen, Connor, Liam and Alice. The funeral was held on Tuesday, August 8, 2023 at 10:15 am from Costello-Runyon Funeral Home, 568 Middlesex Ave (RT 27) Metuchen, followed by an 11:00 AM Mass of Christian Burial at Saint Matthew's Roman Catholic Church, Edison. The entombment was in Resurrection Burial Park, Piscataway. Visitation was held on Monday, August 7, 2023 from 4:00 to 8:00 PM. In lieu of flowers, at the request of the family, please consider making a donation to Saint Matthew Roman Catholic Church in Jim's memory.



**JAMES CONKLIN MOORE** - Died Saturday, June 24, 2023 in Rochester, New York at the age of 83, surrounded by his wife and children. He was a resident of Pittsford, New York. The cause of death was cancer. He was born in Albany, New York on December 20, 1939 to the late James Alexander and Virginia Conklin Moore. Survived by his beloved wife, Geraldine (née Biddle) Moore; four children, James (Wendy), Jennifer, David Malcolm (Christine), and Eliza (Timothy); three stepchildren, Theodore (Megan), Katherine, and Margaret; eleven grandchildren and five step-grandchildren; and his brothers, Eric (Janet) and Kenneth (Karolee) Moore. Mr. Moore's cherished wife of forty-nine years and mother of their children, Shirley Mitchell Moore, died in 2010. Mr. Moore was a graduate of the Albany Academy, Cornell University, and the Cornell Law School. An officer in the United States Army from 1961 to 1967, he completed a year-long tour in Vietnam in 1965-66; prior to his service in Southeast Asia, he earned his wings as a paratrooper. For decades he was a partner in the Rochester law firm of Harter Secrest and Emery LLP. After his retirement from the firm in 2010, he maintained a thriving arbitration/mediation practice through the end of his life. Mr. Moore was a former president of the New York State Bar Association and active on many community boards, including Third Presbyterian Church, Family Service of Rochester, GeVa, the Memorial Art Gallery, Friends of the Rochester Public Library, Highlands of Pittsford, and the Monroe County Bar Association. He was an active member and on the board of the Paris-based Union Internationale des Avocats. He was a member of the American College of Trial Lawyers and was elected to the American Law Institute; he was also admitted to the U.S. Supreme Court Bar. A long-time volunteer at the Wilmot Cancer Center at the University of Rochester, he escorted patients around the hospital in the Vietnam Veterans golf cart. He was a student of art, especially of Caravaggio's paintings, many of which he traveled the world to see. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Rochester Chapter #20**. Mr. Moore's greatest sources of pride were the two women he loved, his children, and grandchildren. There were visiting hours between 4:00 and 7:00 PM on Friday, July 7, 2023 at Anthony Funeral Chapel, 2305 Monroe Avenue, Rochester, New York. Services were held at Third Presbyterian Church, 4 Meigs Street, Rochester, New York on July 8, 2023 at 11:00 AM. In lieu of flowers, contributions in his memory may be sent to: Wilmot Cancer Center, 300 East River Road, P.O. Box 278996, Rochester, New York 14627 or Memorial Art Gallery, Office of Gift and Donor Service, P.O. Box 270032, 300 East River Road, Rochester, New York 14623. To share a memory or send a condolence to the family visit [www.anthonychapels.com](http://www.anthonychapels.com).



**ROBERT CHARLES MORGAN** - Died Thursday, September 28, 2023 in Hallsville, Texas at the age of 79. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on June 11, 1944 in Longview, Texas. He graduated from Pine Tree High School in 1963 and went on to serve his country with

in the United States Army in Vietnam. He was a welder by trade. Robert was a proud member of the VFW and a Master Mason. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Gladewater Chapter #987**. He was also passionate about martial arts and earned a black belt in Taekwondo. Robert is survived by his mother, Connie Morgan; brother, Keith Morgan; sister, Sharon Powell; son, Kenneth Morgan; daughters, Kimberly, Andrea, Angela; ten grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren. His legacy of love, strength, and dedication will continue to live on through his family. Robert will be deeply missed by all who knew him. Private military honors were rendered.



**RICKY A. MYERS** - Died Friday, October 6, 2023 at 10:55 AM in the Lima Memorial Health System E.R. at the age of 74. He was a resident of Lima, Ohio. The cause of death was cancer. Ricky was born in Lima on February 17, 1949 to the late Donald R. and Florence E. (née Roeder) Myers. On April 27, 1996, he married Angela K. (née Elwood) Myers who survives in Lima. In addition to his wife, Ricky is survived by his children: Sandra (Luna) Birchfield and Sara J. Myers both of Lima, OH, two granddaughters: Penelope Birchfield and Karliah Birchfield both of Lima, OH. His extended family includes a brother, David (Linda) Myers of Lima, OH and a sister, Linda Morrissey of Lima, OH and nieces and nephews: April Morrissey, Angela Morrissey, Glenn (Andrea) Morrissey, Joe (Marie) Morrissey, Cindy Wurgess and David (Jen) Myers all of Lima, OH. He was preceded in death by a brother-in-law, John Morrissey. Ricky was a veteran and served from 1969-1972 with the United States Navy and served in the Ohio Military Reserve from 1991-1994. He was a *Life member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Lima Chapter #89**. Some of his interests include watching movies, woodworking, reading books, golfing, euchre, Coca-Cola collector, cooking and playing cards. There was a Celebration of Life held on Thursday, October 12, 2023 at 2:00 PM at the Chiles-Laman Funeral and Cremation Services, Shawnee Chapel. Officiating the service was Reverend Lori Wright. Following the service there were military honors provided by the U.S. Navy and the VFW #1275. The burial of cremated remains was held privately at a later date. Friends visited on Thursday from 12:00 Noon until the time of the service at the Shawnee Chapel. Memorial contributions may be made to the Veteran's Food Pantry. Condolences may be expressed to the family at [www.chiles-lamanfh.com](http://www.chiles-lamanfh.com).



**BRUCE W. NEWKIRK** (USA, SGT-Ret.) - Died Monday, August 7, 2023 at Arnot Ogden Medical Center in Elmira, New York at the age of 77, with his loving family by his side. He was a resident of Elmira. The cause of death was multiple organ failure. Bruce was born in Kingston, New York to the late Elizabeth (née HasBrouck) Newkirk and Phillip Newkirk. His family later relocated to Elmira. Bruce is survived by his loving wife of 53 years Mary (née Grannis) Newkirk;

their only child, and son-in-law Theresa and Robert Reed; cherished grandsons, Joshua and Nicholas (Angela) Strong; along with four precious great-grandchildren, Carter, Adrianna, Layla and Oaklynn Strong. In addition to his parents, he is predeceased by his in-laws, Catherine and Thomas Grannis and sister, Phyllis Hoskinson. Bruce was constantly volunteering for his country and community. He served in the United States Navy from 1963 to 1969 during Vietnam. Bruce served his community as a member of the West Elmira Volunteer Fire Department, beginning in 1974, as a firefighter and EMT, earning Fireman-of-the-Year in 1980. He served in the United States Army National Guard from 1985 to 2005 serving at Ground Zero after 911, and Afghanistan during Operation Enduring Freedom; retiring as a sergeant. After retiring from the Town of Elmira in 2009, Bruce volunteered serving as treasurer of the Vietnam War Museum and was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Elmira Chapter #803**. He was passionate about helping other veterans and assisting them in advocating for their benefits. Family and friends were invited to McInerney Funeral Home, 502 West Water Street, Elmira on Thursday, August 10, 2023 from 4:00 to 7:00 PM. A prayer service was held at the funeral home on Friday, August 11, 2023 at 9:15 AM followed by a 10:00 AM Mass of Christian Burial at Saint Mary's Church, 224 Franklin Street, Elmira. The interment, with committal prayers and military honors, took place at Woodlawn Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family would request that those who wish to express their sympathy please consider making a donation to the Vietnam Veterans of America, 1200 Davis Street, Elmira, NY 14901.



**LEON ELZIE "Knobby" NOBLES** (USAF, MSgt-Ret.) - Died Monday morning, September 18, 2023 in Palm Bay, Florida at the age of 86. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on January 6, 1937 in Parrish, Florida to the late Lonnie Elzie Nobles and Lila Ernestine (née Wager) Nobles. Knobby joined the United States Air Force as a teenager and retired as a Master Sergeant in 1974, after serving for 20 years. During his service he loved his profession as an aircraft mechanic and advanced in rank and responsibilities to flight line crew chief. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Palm Bay Chapter #1096**. He leaves behind Nancy, his beloved wife of 65 years. Knobby, along with Nancy, were founding members of Shiloh Place ministries, out of Conway, South Carolina. They traveled and ministered with Shiloh Place around the country, sharing the Father's love with people from all over the world. Besides his children, David, Becky and Heidi, there are countless people all over the world that consider him their spiritual father. He showed the Father's love to everyone he met and would not hesitate to speak to complete strangers. More often than not, they would be given one of his wonderful hugs, which was a way he ministered God's love to them. He never failed to tell them how much God loved them. In this way he gave them just a glimpse of the love of God. As he was welcomed by Jesus, I am sure that he heard Him say the words, "Well done good and faithful servant." He will be sorely missed. His service was held at The House Church, 1520 Bottlebrush Drive, NE, Palm Bay, Florida on Monday, September 25, 2023 at 6:00 PM. United States Air Force full honors were accorded. In lieu of flowers, please consider donations in his memory to The House Church or Saint Jude Children's Research Hospital.



**ROBERT JOSEPH “Bob” NORWOOD** – Died Friday, June 23, 2023 in Huntsville, Alabama at the age of 75. The cause of death was cardiac arrest. He was born Indianapolis, Indiana on November 30, 1947 to the late Robert E. Norwood and Imogene (née Williams) Norwood. He is survived by a brother, James Norwood of Indianapolis; two biological children, Andrew Norwood of Covington, KY, Angela Norwood of Raywick, KY; two stepdaughters, Angela Dow of Rochester, MN, and Tracye Luberta of Bolingbrook, IL; four adult grandchildren and their spouses, whom he adored, and; one great-grandson, as well as several nieces and nephews. He served in the United States Army and was a decorated Veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Huntsville Chapter #1067**. He went on to finish his Bachelor's Degree in Psychology, then a Master's Degree in Education. He retired in 2012 from Northern Illinois University where he was a Career Counselor in the Placement Office. He will be interred in the National Cemetery in Indianapolis in late 2024 or early 2025 prior to the two-year anniversary of his death.



**MARVIN L. OLSON** - Died Sunday, September 3, 2023 in Del Valle, Texas at the age of 86. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Randall, Iowa to Martin and Myrtle Olson on February 14, 1937. He married Annemarie Lorenz in Munich, Germany on August 7, 1959. He worked as security personnel at Loomis Armored after 20 years of service in the US military, both in the United States Army and the United States Air Force. He served in the Army during the Vietnam War and was awarded the Silver Star, Bronze Star, Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry and Combat Infantry Badge. He served as Post Commander and Quartermaster at VFW Post #12104 in Bastrop. He also was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Grand Prairie Chapter #1013**. Marvin had an interest in historical events and visited many historic sites in his travels around the US in his camping trailer and earlier in life traveling in Europe. One of his favorite pastimes was fishing. He is survived by his daughter Tonya Murray, her husband Thomas Murray, brother Kenneth Olson and granddaughters Sarah Moritz (Steven) and Gretchen Murray and great grandsons Henry and Oliver Moritz. Marvin was preceded in death by his parents Martin and Myrtle Olson, sister Loretta Carlson, brothers Jimmy Olson and Clifford Olson. The funeral services were held at 11:00 AM on Friday, September 8<sup>th</sup> at the Haynie Chapel United Methodist Church in Del Valle, TX. The burial was in Assumption Cemetery in Austin, TX. In lieu of flowers, contributions in his memory may be made to Haynie Chapel, P.O. Box 1128, Del Valle, TX 78617 or the ASPCA (American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals).



**DENNIS PATRICK O'ROURKE** – Died Thursday, June 8, 2023 in The Village of Hadley in The Villages, Florida at the age of 77. The cause of death is unknown. Dennis was originally from Long Island, New York where he was born in Mineola, New York on March 15, 1946 to the late

Edward and Helen O'Rourke. He graduated from Herricks High School in New Hyde Park, NY. Dennis married Joe Ann Mielke, wife of 53 years on June 29, 1969 in Seaford, NY. He worked as a composing room technician at Newsday, a Long Island newspaper for over 45 years where he eventually retired from. Dennis was a proud veteran of the Vietnam War and served in the 1<sup>st</sup> Air Cavalry in the United States Army and was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious achievement in ground operations against hostile forces. Dennis was also involved as a *Life Member* in the **Vietnam Veterans of America – Oxford Chapter #1036**, where he served as the Treasurer. Dennis is preceded in death by his parents Edward and Helen O'Rourke. Dennis is survived by his wife Joe Ann, his son Casey and three grandchildren Jack, Nicholas and Kate, his pride and joy. He was extremely involved in the daily activities of his family and strived to ensure his loved ones were always taken care of. He enjoyed playing golf, coaching his grandsons in a bowling league as well as watch his granddaughter learn the art of dance. His two eldest grandsons will be his pallbearers. The visitation began at 10:00 AM with a Celebration of Life held at 11:00 AM on Wednesday, June 21, 2023 at the Hiers-Baxley on Wedgewood Lane in The Villages. The burial was at the Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell. Contributions in Dennis' memory may be sent to the VVA Chapter #1036 | Vietnam Veterans of America. The family of Dennis wishes to extend our sincere gratitude to the entire team at the Gainesville, FL VA hospital for their exceptional care and compassion.



**JOSEPH ALAN PARISEAU** (USAF, SMSgt.-Ret.) - Died Monday, August 21, 2023 at his residence in Breese, Illinois at the age of 78. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on May 1, 1945 in East Hereford, Quebec, Canada to the late Horace and Pauline (née Grondin) Pariseau. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his father-in-law and mother-in-law, Vincent and Clara (née Wolters) Niemann; and brother-in-law, Mark Niemann. Joseph is survived by his wife, Judith (née Niemann) Pariseau, of Breese, whom he married February 24, 1968 at Saint Dominic Catholic Church in Breese; children, Denise (Vincent) Williams of Roscoe, Diana (Tony) Keys of Oklahoma City, OK, and Curtis Pariseau of Carlyle; grandchildren, Kari (Eric) Woodruff, Abigail Keys and Mia Keys; great-grandson, Armin Woodruff; siblings, John (Mary Ellen) Pariseau of Dalton, MA, Richard (Marcella) Pariseau of Grand Falls, New Brunswick, Canada, and JoAnn Pariseau of Newport, VT; sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law, Jane (Tom) Lohman of Manhattan, KS, Virgil Niemann of Breese, Ed (Pat) Niemann of Breese, and Joyce Niemann of Aviston; and numerous nieces and nephews. Joseph's remarkable military career spanned over thirty-two years in the United States Air Force. He served with honor and distinction, achieving the rank of Senior Master Sergeant. He dedicated his active duty from July 1965 to May 1969 and continued his service in the United States Air Force Reserves from January 1970 to October 1997. Joseph's commitment took him to South Vietnam from May 1968 to May 1969, and later, he served as a Med Tech on a C-9 aircraft at Scott Air Force Base. Notable among his service were his contributions to "Operation Homecoming," aiding in the retrieval of POWs from Vietnam at Travis AFB in California in October 1973, and his involvement in "Operation Baby Lift" from April 4 to May 6, 1975, assisting in the airlift of 949 orphans from Vietnam to the United

States. He also answered the call for "Operation Desert Storm," serving active duty from January to May 1991. Joseph was a Purple Heart Recipient and actively participated in numerous critical missions, including assisting with the emergency TWA landing on August 23, 1987, at Scott Air Force Base, where he played a pivotal role in transporting patients to St. Louis by a bus. In addition to his military service, Joseph contributed his skills and compassion to various roles, serving as a former EMT for Breese Ambulance Service and a former mail carrier in Belleville and East St. Louis Post Offices. He was a devoted member of Saint Augustine Catholic Church in Breese, as well as an integral part of the Breese American Legion Post #252, where he served as Past Commander twice, Adjutant, Board of Directors member, and former Chairman of the Queen of Hearts Drawing. His community involvement extended to the Clinton County **Veterans of America – Highland Chapter #269** as a *Life Member*; Saint Joseph's Hospital as a volunteer, Clinton County Historical Society as Past President, and the Highland Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #5694. Joseph found joy in simple pleasures, enjoying card games, particularly euchre, visits to the YMCA, and exploring new destinations through travel. A Memorial Service was celebrated on Monday, August 28, 2023 at 11:00 AM at the Moss Funeral Home in Breese with Reverend Father Chuck Tuttle officiating. The interment was at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery in Saint Louis, MO with full military honors accorded. Visitation was on Sunday, August 27, 2023 from 2:00–4:00 PM and again on Monday, August 28, 2023 from 9:00-11:00 AM at the Moss Funeral Home in Breese. In lieu of flowers, plants, and other gifts, memorials may be made to Tunnel to Towers Foundation or Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund and were received at the visitation or by mail, Moss Funeral Home, 535 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Breese, IL 62230.



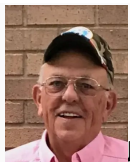
**DR. DENNIS MELVIN PAUSTIAN** – Died Tuesday, July 25, 2023 in Torrance, California at the age of 76. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Walcott, Iowa on April 20, 1947 to the late Melvin and Ruth Paustian. He was one of three boys, grew up working on his family's farm in Walcott, and was known for his talent in sports. He served in the United States Army from 1967 to 1970, and fought in the Vietnam War where he earned an Air Medal with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters for flying 117 times. Dennis attended Palmer College of Chiropractic in Davenport, Iowa, and graduated in 1945. He was a proud member of the Rugby Football Club "Old Boys" where they were national champions in 1972 and 1973. He moved to Torrance, California and got married to Jane in 1976. They were married for 19 years and shared 4 children: Timothy, Nicholas, Meghan and Elisa. Dennis ran his chiropractic business "Paustian Chiropractic" from 1976 up until May of this year. His daughter Elisa worked alongside of him in his office and he frequently had his grandchildren running around, causing ruckus, but keeping the business lively. He was known in the community for his talent with using Toftness Technique, nutrition, and N.E.T. for natural healing. He was beloved by patients, many who stayed with him for over 45 years through his long career. His clients became lifelong friends and he is remembered by them for his honesty, wit and humor. Dennis was a supporter of the American Legion of Veterans, a supporter of the Wounded Warrior Project and would treat veterans in his chiropractic practice for free. He was an *At-Large Life Member* of **Veterans of America – California**. He was active in the

Rotary, a member of the Elks, a supporter of the California State Parks Foundation and was politically involved. He supported the "Petal Pushers" Lutheran Hour Ministries and enjoyed working with them on the floats for the Rose Parade. Dennis loved to play cards, and played poker with friends weekly. He loved sports, and loved to travel and camp. He took trips to places such as Europe, China, Mexico and the Philippines. His children will always remember their adventures with him at Twin Lakes in Mammoth, California as it was his favorite camping destination. He was an entrepreneur and opened a feed store called Steers and Stripes and built houses with his son Nick. Dennis was a lifelong Christian and had been active with the churches Saint Matthew Lutheran, Ascension Lutheran and Saint Margaret Mary. He was a current member of Christ Lutheran and enjoyed being an elder of the church. He loved engaging with his church family, and believed in continuing his education with bible study. Dennis was a firm believer and spoke of his faith often. He loved the Lord and knew where he was going at the end of his life. Dennis was a proud grandfather and loved spending time with his family, especially around a good meal. He will be missed most for his stories, sarcasm, and his ability to deliver a good joke and laugh. He is survived by his four children, eight grandchildren: Briana, Dylan, Julia, Logan, Kylie, Arielle, Ezekiel and Everett "Ace" and three great-grandchildren: Jaiden, Nevaeh and Aurora.



**RICHARD EDWIN PEDERSEN** (USA, COL-Ret.) - Died the morning of Friday, September 22, 2023 in Indianapolis, Indiana at the age of 85. The cause of death is unknown. Colonel Pedersen was born in Tulsa, Oklahoma on April 22, 1938 the eldest child of the late Richard Bert and Gladys (née Fischer) Pedersen. His father was a retired Navy Commander. Richard was raised on Bainbridge Island, Washington where he led an active life participating in Boy Scouts, 4-H, Church activities at Port Madison Lutheran Church (which his grandfather and Father help build in the early 1900's) and DeMolay serving as Master Councilor. While attending Bainbridge High School, he lettered in Football, Basketball, Baseball and Tennis. Richard graduated as valedictorian of his class in 1956. Upon graduation, he entered the University of Washington in Seattle, graduating from there in June 1960 with a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration and a major in accounting. At the UW he was active in his fraternity, Alpha Tau Omega and served on the Inter-fraternity council. He was a Distinguished Military Graduate and commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army Infantry through the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC). He entered active duty in August of that year and attended the Infantry Officer Basic Course. The colonel's early commissioned service was with the 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Rifle Battalion, 46<sup>th</sup> Infantry, Munich, Germany, where he served as a line platoon leader and support platoon leader. His career in the Finance Corps began in 1962 when he was assigned to the 105<sup>th</sup> Finance Disbursing Section in Munich, Germany. During that assignment, he completed the Finance Officer Basic Course by correspondence. While in Germany, Richard met and married Sally Ann Wilkinson. Their two sons, David Eric and Richard Olin were born in Munich. Following his promotion to Captain in June 1964, he was assigned as the Finance and Accounting Officer, Madigan General Hospital. While they were in Tacoma WA, their third son Robert Arne was born. He returned to school in December 1966 entering the Finance Officer Advanced Course and then assigned to Vietnam. He served as the Executive Officer for the 92<sup>nd</sup> Finance Section in Cam Ranh Bay beginning in August 1967. He assumed command of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Finance Section in Nha Trang in February at the same

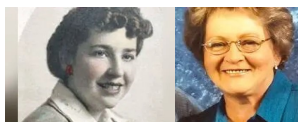
time as he was promoted to Major. Returning to the United States in August 1968, he was assigned as an instructional division chief in the Department of Finance, U.S. Army Finance School at Fort Benjamin Harrison in Indianapolis IN. He then enrolled in the Indiana University Graduate School of Business where he received his Master of Business Administration Degree in Quantitative Business Analysis in May 1972. Following graduation in 1972, he was assigned as the Headquarters Commandant/Budget and Fiscal Officer for the Joint United States Military Mission for Aid to Turkey. He graduated from the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College via correspondence in 1975. Returning to Fort Benjamin Harrison, he was assigned to the U.S. Army Finance and Accounting Center working under the Director for Quality where he directed a world-wide audit and review program. He was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in May 1976 and promoted to Colonel in March 1982. He retired in March 1987 after serving his country for 27 years. Upon retiring, he began his civilian career working for Sage Systems. Next, he began working for Primerica where he used his CPA talents in helping many clients. Richard and Sally became active in the Indianapolis community especially in their church, Episcopal Church of the Nativity. Richard joined the local Kiwanis Club who had many retired friends. He continued to meet with other retired Finance officers in their yearly conventions around the county. Richard also tried to go back to the Northwest to attend school reunions and see his many relatives who remained in Washington. Colonel Pedersen was a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) and a Certified Cost Analyst, a member of the Indiana Society of CPA's, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the Institute of Cost Analysis, the American Society of Military Comptrollers, the Association of Government Accountants, the Association of the United States Army, and the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States in addition to other military and civilian professional organizations. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Lawrence Chapter #295**. He was awarded and wore two Legion of Merits, the Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster and the Army Commendation Medal. He has also received three major awards from his professional association. In April of 2023, Richard, and his youngest son Arne, went on Indy Honor Flight #38 to Washington DC. It was a wonderful trip. The Mail Call and Homecoming were amazing. Much better than he got coming back from Vietnam. Richard was preceded in death by his parents Richard Bert and Gladys Arlene Fischer Pedersen and his sister Karen Silva. Richard is survived by his wife of 61 years, Sally, sons David Eric (Joyce), Richard Olin (Alison), and Robert Arne (Michele); grandsons Richard Blake, Charles Graham (Haily), granddaughter Faith; his sister Jerri Bolinger (Bob), brother Bert (Donna) and brother Ollie (Janice), brother-in-law Mark Silva (Nancy) and many nieces and nephews. Funeral Services were held at 11:00 AM on Friday, October 6, 2023, with visitation beginning at 10:00am at The Church of the Nativity in Indianapolis. In lieu of sending flowers, please donate to Richard's favorite charity, HVAF of Indiana.



**JAMES WILFRED PERRY** – Died Saturday, July 15, 2023 in Dallas, Texas at the age of 85. The cause of death is unknown. James was born on July 9, 1938 in Lynn, Massachusetts to the late Louis A. Perry and Mary (née Coppola) Perry. He passed away surrounded by family and friends at his son's home in Grand Prairie, Texas. James lived in the DFW area for the last 12 years. He served his community by helping military veterans as a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Grand Prairie Chapter #1013**, Disabled American Veterans, and the American Legion. In 1962, James met the woman of his dreams at a USO dance in Washington, D.C. James and Valerie Ann Peachey were married on February 8, 1964, at Bolling Air Force Base. During their 57 years of marriage, James and Valerie were blessed to have a daughter, a son, two



daughters-in-law, three grandchildren and one great grandson. James was a proud patriot of this country and served 28 years in the United States Air Force from 1961 to 1989. He was awarded several medals during his career, including the Vietnam Service Medal, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award w/Valor, Air Force Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, and earned the Meritorious Service Medal two times. James served as a Civil Servant to the Air Force for over 15 years and was awarded the Outstanding Civilian Career Service Award. James also volunteered countless hours for various military, youth, and church organizations. His favorite time was spent with family. He will be greatly missed as a father, father-in-law, grandfather, great-grandfather, mentor, and friend to so many. James was preceded in death by Louis A. Perry (father), Mary (Coppola) Perry (mother), Valerie Ann Perry (wife), Una Ann Perry (granddaughter), and Shi Ann Perry (daughter-in-law). He is survived by Charles James Perry (son), Laura Evelyn (Helslander) Perry (daughter-in-law), Caroline Ann Perry (daughter), Kirstin Ann Perry (granddaughter), Taylor Rose Perry (granddaughter), and John Charles Tillinghast (great-grandson). A celebration of James' life took place at Jaynes Memorial Chapel in Duncanville, Texas on Monday, July 31, 2023 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. A prayer service was from 7:00 to 7:30 PM. James' final resting place was at the Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery in Dallas, Texas. Funeral services were held on Tuesday, August 1, 2023 at 10:00 AM.

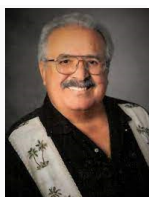


**ELSIE RUTH PERSCHKE** - Died Wednesday, December 23, 2020 in Floresville, Texas at the age of 97. She was a resident of Stockdale, Texas. The cause of death is unknown. Elsie was born on April 13, 1923 in Otis, Kansas to the late Jacob and Lydia (née Schlegel) Koch. She enjoyed ceramics, painting, sewing, and embroidery quilting, and worked as a seamstress, while also being a homemaker. She loved taking care of her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Her beautiful quilts were a cherished gift of all who received them. She was a *Life Member* of **Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America – Zephyrhills (Florida) Chapter #195**. Elsie was preceded in death by her parents; first husband, Hillis C. Kissee; second husband, Eugene C. Perschke; sons, Robert and Jerry Kissee; sister, Ramona Koch; brother, Jacob Koch; and sister-in-law, Alice Koch. Elsie is survived by her children, Ronald (Jane) Kissee of Stockdale, Donald (Paulette) Kissee of Necedah, Wisc., and Sueann (Keith) Muir of Afton, Tenn.; and numerous loving grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren. The family would like to thank the nurses and staff at Floresville Residence and Rehabilitation Center and Nurses in Touch Hospice for their loving care of Elsie during the past five years. A memorial service was held at a later date.



**SAMUEL RICHARD "Sam" PETERSON** - Died Friday, August 25, 2023 at his home in Marquette, Michigan at the age of 70 while under the loving care of his family and Lake Superior

Hospice. He was a resident of Harvey, Michigan and formerly of Munising, Michigan. The cause of death was cancer. Sam was born in Marquette on January 12, 1953 to the late Gail and Carmen (née Lark) Peterson. He was raised in Munising and graduated from William G. Mather High School in 1971. Sam joined the United States Army and served from October 7, 1971 until July 30, 1975. He served in Vietnam and was honorably discharged. Sam went to school when he returned home and attended Bay College, Ferris State, and NMU. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree and taught diesel mechanics and welding at NMU for nine years. Sam then went to work for the U.S. Postal Service from 1993 until his retirement in 2008. He worked at the Marquette, Negaunee, and Ishpeming Post Offices. Sam married Mary (Marietti) Jarvis on November 17, 2008. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Munising Chapter #237**, the Disabled American Veterans, and the Veterans of Foreign War. Sam enjoyed fishing, hunting, and tending his vegetable and flower gardens. He is survived by his wife – Mary Peterson of Marquette; sons – Damion Corp, Keith (Sarah) Jarvis, and David (Michelle) Jarvis; grandchildren – Brandon Schiefel, Whitleigh Jarvis, William England, Christian Jarvis, Jerrod Jarvis, Jacob England, Payton Corp, Lauryn Corp, Jordan Stookbury, Kenzie Jarvis, Alexa Jarvis, and Jackson Jarvis; great-grandchildren – Heaven, Nevaeh, Addie, Tyler, Ashlynn, and Emma; brothers – Ed (Christina) Peterson of Jackson, Carl (Debbie) Peterson of Marquette, and Tom (Mary) Peterson of East Los Angeles, CA; and numerous nieces and nephews. Sam was preceded in death by his parents, Gail and Carmen and his sister, Mary Trumbell. Services were held at the Bowerman Funeral Home in Munising on Friday, September 1, 2023. The visitation was from 12:00 Noon– 1:00 PM. Pastor Jim Rodgers conducted Sam’s funeral service at 1:00 PM. The interment was at the Maple Grove Cemetery in Munising where military honors were rendered by the American Legion and Vietnam Veterans Honor Guards.



**ROBERT JESUS PILA** (USA, MSG-Ret.) - Died Monday, June 5, 2023 at Prestige Manor, Belleview, Florida at the age of 79. He was a resident of The Villages, Florida. The cause of death is unknown. Robert was born in Havana, Cuba on January 2, 1944 to the late Antonio and Hilda Pila. He was the husband of Janice Pila for 33½ years. He was a Veteran of the United States Army for 24 years and retired as a Master Sergeant. He then worked for the Federal Government in Logistics for 20 years. He and Janice moved to The Villages in June 2006. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Oxford Chapter #1036**. He enjoyed playing pickleball, golf, bowling, racquetball, dancing, traveling and swimming. He was happiest when helping others enjoy themselves and have a good time. He was truly the life of any party! He was a generous and loving son, husband, father and grandfather. He will be greatly missed by all those who knew him well. Robert is survived by his wife, Janice Ruth Pila and son, Robert J. Pila and his wife Jennifer of Fort Mill, SC and daughter, Michelle Brogna and her husband Frank of Harrisburg, PA. He was the grandfather of Christian Ressalam, Aryana Pila, and Gabriella Brogna. Robert was laid to rest at Florida National Cemetery, Bushnell, FL. The arrangements were entrusted to the Hiers-Baxley Funeral Services, 5946 SE Robinson Road, Belleview, FL. Condolences may be left at [Hiers-Baxley.com](http://Hiers-Baxley.com).



**RICHARD EDMOND PLAMONDON** - Died Tuesday, September 27, 2022 at home in Lincoln, Rhode Island at the age of 78. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Central Falls, Rhode Island on November 8, 1943 to the late Joseph "Blackie" and Clemence (née Turenne) Plamondon. He is survived by a son, Ky Plamondon, of Lincoln; a daughter, Alice Pereira; a brother, Adrien and his wife Maureen of Central Falls; niece, Sherri Valley; a nephew, Shawn Plamondon, and numerous other nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by a brother, Albert Plamondon; a nephew, David and granddaughter, Danielle Pereira Hoban. He was a Veteran of the United States Air Force and retired as a Technical Sergeant after 21 years and 7 months. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – James Michael Ray Memorial (Woonsocket) Chapter #818**. Richard's services were private. He was buried with Military Honors in Rhode Island State Veteran Cemetery in Exeter, Rhode Island. Keefe Funeral Home in Lincoln, Rhode Island was in charge of the arrangements.



**RONALD T. "Ron" PONESS, SR.** - Died Monday, September 18, 2023 in Vero Beach, Florida at the age of 81. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Rochester, New York on June 19, 1942. Survived by his loving wife of 56 years, Gaye; children, Ronald Jr. (Jessica), Robin (Tom) Hernandez and Michelle Vittone; grandchildren, Katherine (Dennis) DeVries, Leila and Mia Hernandez; special niece, Anne Berry; cousins and dear friends. Ron was a proud 1960 graduate of Jefferson High School in Rochester, New York. He enlisted in the United States Marine Corps, served three tours in Vietnam, and was honorably discharged as a Sergeant (E-5) in 1966. After the military, Ron then earned his Bachelor's degree from SUNY Brockport followed by his Master's degree at the University of Rochester. Ron also attended the University of Miami in 1966 where he met his wife Gaye Anne and celebrated 56 years of marriage. Ron began his Social Studies teaching career at Gates-Chili High School and retired from there after 25 years. While at Gates Chili he had a strong leadership role in the Teachers Union. He also enjoyed skiing on the slopes at Swain with the Ski Club he advised for many years, and you would always find him cheering on his students and athletes at the weekly Football games. "Mr. Poness" as he was known by his students was a giant personality, strong and tough exterior, but a gentle caring heart, always helping out others in need or those in danger of losing their way. Ron became closely involved with the Veterans Outreach Center and became an advocate for helping out his fellow Vets. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Rochester Chapter #20**. He continued his lifelong friendships with his fellow Marines and attended reunions throughout the country on a yearly basis. Ron enjoyed an active retirement life spending time with family and friends. Ron and Gaye traveled between their home in Vero Beach Florida and summer home on Lake Ontario so he could spend time near his children, grandchildren, and friends. He will be greatly missed by anyone fortunate to know him. Family and friends came to visit at the Leo M. Bean and Sons Funeral Home on Monday from 4:00-7:00 PM. The Funeral Mass was celebrated on Tuesday at 10:00 AM at Saint John of Rochester Church, 8 Wickford Way, Fairport, NY. The interment was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Veterans Outreach Center.



**ROY NEAL PRUITT** – Died Saturday, September 16, 2023 in Milford, Delaware at the age of 84. The cause of death is unknown. Roy was born in Whitehall, Illinois on September 29, 1938 to the late James and Laura Pruitt. Roy retired to Milford after serving 21 years in the United States Air Force. He remained a resident of Milford since 1976. He married the love of his life Frances "Boo" Pruitt on December 5, 1970. He worked for Milford Stitching until they closed and then The Sussex Company until he retired for good. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Dover Chapter #850**. Roy loved Nascar racing, especially Alan Kulwicki and watching old Westerns, Rifleman, Gunsmoke and anything with Roy Rogers. He also loved Cyndi Lauper's

music. He enjoyed going to breakfast with his buddies before going to read the newspaper to his wife at her final resting place. He also enjoyed going to the Felton Fire Company on Friday nights to have ice cream and see his friends and his nieces Shelly Hobbs and Lisa Brittingham. Roy was the greatest father any child could ever want and just an all-around great man, and he will be missed beyond words and never be forgotten. RIP we all love you and miss you. In addition to his parents; he was preceded in death by his wife of 51 1/2 years Frances "Boo" Pruitt; brothers Bill and Lynn; his sisters Rose, Isabel; as well as his grandson, Joshua Abraham and his son James Abraham. He is survived by his son's Richard J. "Pug" Abraham, Jr. (Chasity Calhoun) and Roy Lynn Pruitt (Helen), and daughter Lucinda; his granddaughters Myria L. Abraham (caregiver), Gabrielle Abraham, Serenity Abraham, Naomi Emery, Rhiannon Pruitt, Jodi Baker, Jessica Baker; and grandsons James Abraham and Kaiden Swain and great grandson Parker J. Abraham; and several other great grandchildren as well as nieces and nephews. The interment was private in Milford Community Cemetery, Milford for family and close friends. In lieu of flowers, the family suggested contributions be made to a charity of your choice. Please make sure you include Roy on the memo line of your contribution to your heartfelt organization. The arrangements were made by the Lofland Funeral Home, Milford. Letters of condolence may be shared with the family at [www.loflandandmcknatt.com](http://www.loflandandmcknatt.com).

**DON MICHAEL PULLEN** (USN, CPO-Ret.) – Died Monday, July 31, 2023 in Orange, Virginia at the age of 76. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on August 6, 1946 to the late Elwood and Flossie Pullen. He succumbed to many illnesses due to Agent Orange, which he contacted during his three tours in Vietnam. He was very proud to have served his country as a United States Navy Seabee for twenty-one years. He retired as a Chief Petty Officer. He was a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Culpeper Chapter #752*. He is survived by his loving wife of 53 years, Gloria Cromer Pullen. He is also survived by his supportive and loving sons, Michael Elwood Pullen and wife Crystal of Nashville, TN. and Matthew Jon Pullen and life partner Dawn Nicholson of Madison VA. He also leaves behind four adored grandchildren: Brianna Pullen, Drake Liles, Everett Pullen, Kedrick Liles-Pullen and stepson Nathaniel Liles, all of Nashville, TN. Don comes from a large and close knit family. He is survived by brothers Frank Pullen (Mary Lou) of Arvon, VA, Ron Pullen (Jan) of Tucson, AZ, Gordon Pullen of Macedonia, and Larry Pullen (Reed) of Barboursville, VA. He is also survived by a sister Brenda Yoder (Ray) of Buckingham VA. His aunt Barbara Litten survives. He was preceded in death by his brother Gregory Pullen, parents Elwood and Flossie Pullen, and Everett and Margaret Cromer, his father and mother-in-law. He leaves behind many cousins and friends. Don was loved by many people. He was humorous, a jokester, generous, and kind. He loved to fish, eat out, shop and be with family and friends. But most of all he loved God more and more as he got older. He was a member and former board member of Orange Assembly of God. He will be missed by all. There was a time to greet the family at 11:00 AM on Monday, August 7, 2023 at Orange Assembly of God, Orange, VA. A memorial service was held at 12:00 Noon. Military honors were presented at the National Cemetery in Culpeper, Virginia following the memorial service. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to the Orange Assembly of God Church, 12386 James Madison Highway Orange, VA.



**MARK STEVEN "Jackie" RA'CHELLI** - Died Monday, August 21, 2023 in Falls Mills, Virginia at the age of 67, with his loving wife by his side after a long courageous battle with cancer that he fought to the very end. As he was on his way to Glory Land one of his favorite songs, I Can Only Imagine was playing on 91.1, his station of choice. He was born on January 14, 1956 to the Jack and Shirley Ra'Chelli. He was also predeceased by a son, Mark Nicholas "Nicky" Ra'Chelli, and a granddaughter, Destinee Ra'Chelli, and nephews Robby and Bryan, and his favorite, Aunt Anna. He is survived by his loving and caring wife, Clarissa Ann "Rissa" Ra'Chelli; son, Mark Steven (Jenny) Ra'Chelli; grandkids, Conner, John, Michael, and Papaws heart Mikayla; his siblings, Michael (Lorianne), Jeff (Debbie), Lori and, Jackie, and; number one great-niece Mariah, great-nephew little Aaron, and our last dog, Bubba. He was a *Life Member* of **Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America – Princeton Chapter #628**. "Mark and I started off fast and crazy, but we ended up with Jesus in our hearts and on our Godly paths.... Thank you, Jesus!!! From all of our sign paintings to our groups, The VA, Marine Corps league, Toys for Tots, Honor Guard, and our Church family, we lived a lot of life together in our 5 years of marriage. I told him yes yes!!! Mine, Mine... You're my best friend and will always be my #1 husband. I will always love you MINE, MINE!!!" Jackie is now rejoicing and dancing in heaven with his mother. In Lieu of Flowers please make donations to Clarissa Ra'Chelli. A Memorial service was held on Monday August 28, 2023 at 2:00 PM at the Mercer Funeral Home Chapel.



**DAVID VERN "Dave" RAMSEY** - of Traverse City, Michigan, age 69, Died Monday, August 7, 2023 in Traverse City, Michigan at the age of 69. The cause of death was Alzheimer's disease. He was born on September 27, 1953 in Garden City, Michigan to the late Keith and Jessie (née Amiot) Ramsey. As a proud United States Navy veteran, he served his country from 1971 to 1981. He was long standing *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Plymouth Chapter #528** in Plymouth/Canton, Michigan and one of his greatest joys was spending time with his fellow veterans every September at the VVA reunion in Kokomo, IN. He enjoyed working on his Civil War research, adding to his extensive stamp collection and taking care of his fur buddy, Murphy. Dave is survived by his wife of 22 years, Terri Ramsey and many loving family members and friends. A celebration of his life took place at the Central United Methodist Church of Traverse City in October of 2023. In lieu of flowers, those wishing to offer an expression of sympathy are encouraged to make a memorial contribution to the Alzheimer's Association, 921 West 11<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite #1W, Traverse City, MI 49684.





**PAUL DUANE REYOS** – Died Monday, August 21, 2023 in Saint George, Utah at the age of 81, surrounded by his children and grandchildren. The cause of death is unknown. Paul was born on September 22, 1941 in Albuquerque, New Mexico to the late Paul and Anita May (née Reed) Reyos. He lived in Fort Duchesne, Utah until he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in March 1960 retiring with an honorable discharge on July 13, 1967. Paul's military career included combat engineer, marine barracks guard, and rifle marksmanship instructor, followed by a promotion to military police sergeant. He received the National Defense Service Medal, Rifle Expert Medal and Good Conduct Medal. After his military career, Paul began his painting trade for 40+ years and continued painting as a hobby after retirement. Paul's passion for genealogy research has left a written legacy for his children, grandchildren, and extended family. He enjoyed bowling, fishing, western music, movies, and painting his abstract art on any spare piece of wood he could find. If there wasn't one nearby, he would just start painting the walls. Mostly, he loved just sitting and visiting with everyone and discussing anything and everything. And playing his favorite game with the grandkids "Pull My Finger". Paul was always willing to help and serve others. He was a member of the Latter-Day Saints Church. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Saint George Chapter #961**. Paul is survived by his six children: daughter Dena (David) Juday, daughter Renee (Scott) Gibson, son Christopher (Jessica) Reyos, daughter Andrea (Steven) Powell, daughter Marlene Graham, son Fernando (Cami) Reyos, his 18 grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren, brothers: Kenny, Allen, Alex and Nino Reyos, sisters Paulette and Kaye Reyos, and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins. Paul was preceded in death by his father, Paul Reyos; mother, Anita May Reed Reyos; his sisters Annette Pike; Glenda Miera; and Linda Kelly; and his brothers Robert and Ricky Reyos; baby boy Reyos; great-granddaughter Austen; spouse Patricia Reyos; and stepdaughter Sierra Tolle. Funeral services were held on Saturday, August 26<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM in the Fort Duchesne Community Center, followed by interment at Reed Cemetery, Whiterocks (Farm Creek), Utah.



**RAY RICHARDSON** - Died Monday August 28, 2023 at Greencrest Assisted Living in Parsons, Tennessee at the age of 78. He was a resident of Linden, Tennessee. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Nashville, Tennessee on March 9, 1945 to the late William Hobart Richardson and Sallie Matt (née Culp) Richardson. He was a Shriner, and also a veteran of the United States Air Force where he served as a communications specialist. He worked for Tiller Furniture Company as well as taught electronics at Tennessee Area Vocational School for many years. He also worked for Tennessee Gas Pipeline as a systems analyst where he retired after 26 years. Ray's favorite past time was playing the guitar and the keyboard. He played in a band called

the Persuaders and later one called The Elderly Brothers. He enjoyed playing music for the fish fries at the Flatwoods Fire Department. He loved riding his Harley Davidson motorcycle and catfishing on the Tennessee River with Ronnie Ary and Sam Reeves. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Linden Chapter #1123**. In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by his brothers, Bernis, Pete, W.H., and Edward Richardson. Survivors include his wife of 60 years, Patty Richardson, a son James Ray "Jimmy" (Sherry) Richardson of Bon Aqua, a daughter Sheri (Shane) Ary of Linden, and five grandsons, Brandon, Alex, and Cody Richardson, and Caleb and Colby Ary and a host of other loving family members and many friends.



**LYMAN LYNDON RILEY, JR.** - Died Tuesday, September 19, 2023 at the Rainbow Hospice Center in Johnson Creek, Wisconsin at the age of 80. He was a resident of Beaver Dam, Wisconsin. The cause of death was metastatic melanoma. Lyman was born on April 6, 1943 in Winneconne, Wisconsin, where he spent his formative years. He went on to serve four years as a medic in the United States Navy. He was an *At-Large Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Wisconsin**. Later he met his sweetheart, Mary, on his birthday. They were married the following year on June 17, 1967, in Oshkosh, WI. They were together for 56 cherished years. Afterwards, he was employed with Meriter Hospital in Madison, WI as the manager for the respiratory care and sleep lab departments for 33 years. Throughout his career he was known for his hard work, dedication and passion for helping others. After retirement, he enjoyed the life of a snowbird traveling from WI to winters in FL. In his free time, Lyman enjoyed traveling with his family, household projects and spending time outdoors. More than anything, Lyman was a devoted husband, father and grandfather. He felt very blessed and fortunate. He was a quiet, gentle and patient man who worked tirelessly to ensure that his family had everything they needed. He is a true role model who we will always look up to. Survivors include his wife, Mary, and his four children; Kathy (Jeff) Lindberg of Ramrod Key, FL; Karen (Andy) Derrick of Beaver Dam, WI; Mollie Manthe (John) of DeForest, WI; and Tim (Angie) Riley of Tempe, AZ; nine grandchildren; Kaylynette, Tyler, Ryan, Jake, Maddie, Libby, Ian, Dexter and Dahlia; one great granddaughter, Ella; and a sister Eleanor (Jim) Riley. Preceded in death by his parents, Lyman Sr. and Gertrude Riley; sister Nancy Luaders and a grandson, Jonathan Manthe. A private service was held for the immediate family.



**BENEDICT ROCCO "Ben" RINAUDO** - Died Thursday, September 14, 2023 at Maury Regional Medical Center in Columbia, Tennessee at the age of 76. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on June 26, 1947 in Rochester, New York to the late Benedict Rinaudo and the late Elizabeth (née Cattalo) Rinaudo. He honorably served his country in the United States Air Force

during the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Franklin Chapter #1140**. On September 5, 1970, he united in marriage with Pattie Persikini, and together they were blessed with three children. Ben dedicated thirty years of his life to General Motors before retiring. He was a devout member of Saint Catherine Catholic Church. Ben had a profound love for nature, finding comfort in fishing. He enjoyed playing cards and was an avid collector of coins. But above all, Ben was the beloved patriarch of a large and loving family that he cherished dearly. Ben is survived by his loving wife, Pattie Rinaudo, and their children: Michael (Jennie) Rinaudo of Spring Hill, TN, Thomas (Betty) Rinaudo of Murfreesboro, TN, and Elizabeth (Andrew) Nielson of Columbia, TN. He is also survived by his brothers, Rocky Rinaudo, Lorenzo (Julie) Rinaudo, Vinnie Rinaudo, and Chester (Linda) Rinaudo, his sister, Margaret Sabin, and his brother-in-law, Michael Persikini. Ben will be remembered with love by his grandchildren: Michael Massey, Gabryelle (Nathan) Williams, Stephen Rinaudo, Alexander Rinaudo, Michaela Rinaudo, Antonio Rinaudo, Cassandra Rinaudo, Christian Rinaudo, Patricia Johnson, Julian Rinaudo, Benedict Nielson, and Patrick Nielson. He is also survived by six great-grandchildren, as well as numerous nieces and nephews. A funeral mass to celebrate Ben's life was held on Thursday, September 21, 2023 at 12:00 PM at Saint Catherine Catholic Church, with Reverend Father Dan Reehil officiating. Following the service, he was laid to rest in the Garden of Resurrection at Maury Memorial Gardens, with military honors provided by the United States Air Force. A visitation was held on Wednesday, September 20, 2023, from 4:00-8:00 PM at the Heritage Funeral Home, where friends and family paid their respects. Heritage Funeral Home assisted the family with the funeral arrangements. The pallbearers were Michael Massey, Stephen Rinaudo, Alexander Rinaudo, Antonio Rinaudo, Christian Rinaudo, Julian Rinaudo, Benedict Nielson, and Patrick Nielson.



**GARY STUART ROSENHOUSE** – Died Saturday, October 2, 2023 in The Villages, Florida at the age 76 of due to complications from ALS. He was born in New Brunswick, New Jersey on July 11, 1947, the first-born son of the late Seymour and Ruth Rosenhouse of Highland Park, NJ. After graduating from Highland Park High School, Gary joined the United States Navy and was deployed to Vietnam. After he was discharged from the Navy, he found a new path in Johnson and Johnson for many years running their print operation in NJ, until he was recruited to manage the graphic services and print department for JM Family Enterprises, in Jacksonville, FL, and was also responsible for the design of all printed materials. Those who knew Gary would describe him as strong-willed and stubborn at times, but he also had an enormous heart and a wonderful sense of humor. He was generous, loyal, and brave. He was clever and full to the brim with knowledge gained through all his life experiences. When Gary retired in 2007 and officially moved to The Villages, FL he enjoyed playing golf, relaxing by the pool, creating “masterpieces” in the Villages Woodshop, traveling, and being an active, *Life Member* and *Founding Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Oxford Chapter #1036**. Gary was preceded in death by his loving wife of 52 years, Tamara “Tammie” Rosenhouse, who passed away earlier this year. Although he is no longer with us, Gary’s memory will live on through his caring daughter Jill Robin Rosenhouse,

his brothers Lester (Donna) Rosenhouse, Scott Rosenhouse, and his brother-in-law Jon (Rachel) Polansky. Gary was also a devoted uncle and great uncle to his nieces and nephews and has many wonderful life-long friends who will miss him dearly. In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to North Florida Foundation for Research and Education, Inc. Attn: ALS Fund: 1601 SW Archer Road (AZZZZ51) Gainesville, FL 32608 or the charity of your choice.



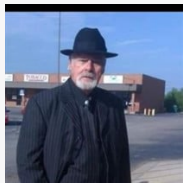
**DALE J. SANDELIN** - Died Friday, August 11, 2023 at his home in Breese, Illinois at the age of 76, surrounded by his family. He was formerly of Saint Rose, Illinois. The cause of death was cancer. He was born on April 5, 1947 in Oak Park, Illinois to the late Norman and Maureen (née Schlenker) Sandelin. Dale is survived by his wife, Linda (née Woltering-Koch) Sandelin-Woltering, of Saint Rose, whom he married October 10, 1998 in Marion, IL; children, Cheri Flager and Curtis Sandelin, both of Alta Loma, CA, Timothy (Torie) Koch of Saint Rose, and Victoria (Glenn Frerker) Koch-Frerker of Addieville; grandchildren, Brent Chima, Alexis Flager, Allyssa Koch, Emma Koch, Jonathan Koch, Jaelyn Frerker, and Allyson Frerker; brother, Wayne (Barbara) Sandelin of Las Vegas, NV; and sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law, Karen Aughenbaugh of Franklin, IN, Brenda (Ken) Wellen of Albers, Sandy (Lyle) Johnson of Breese, and Eric (Sandra) Woltering of Farmington, MO; and nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, Dale was preceded in death by a sister, Patricia Sandelin and brother-in-law, Kevin Woltering. Dale was a veteran of the United States Navy. He studied at Western Illinois University in Animal Science and Law Enforcement Administration. He went on to work for the Illinois State Police and retired as a Sergeant and also worked with the Department of Homeland Security FEMA. Dale was a member of Pleiades Masonic Lodge #478 in Westchester, Quincy Consistory, Ansar Shriners in Springfield, Fraternal Order of Police Troopers Lodge #41, a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Highland Chapter #269**, and Breese American Legion Post 252. Dale enjoyed fishing, traveling, yard work, but above all, spending time with his children and grandchildren. Funeral Services were held on Tuesday, August 15, 2023 at 11:00 AM at the Moss Funeral Home in Breese with Deacon Linus Klostermann officiating. The interment was at Saint Dominic-Saint Augustine Cemetery in Breese. Visitation hours were held on Tuesday, August 15, 2023 from 9:00–11:00 AM at the Moss Funeral Home in Breese. In lieu of flowers, plants, and other gifts, memorials may be made to Shriners Hospitals at [www.lovetotherescue.org](http://www.lovetotherescue.org) or Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter #269 and will be received at the visitation or by mail, Moss Funeral Home, 535 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Breese, IL 62230, who is serving the family.

**JEFFREY GENE SANTOKI** - Died Sunday, July 2, 2023 in Mililani, Hawaii at the age of 78. The cause of death was metastatic pancreatic adenocarcinoma. He was born on April 20, 1945 in Waialua, Oahu, Hawaii. He served in the United States Army from January 30, 1969 to August 25, 1971 with a tour of duty in Vietnam from December 18, 1969 to August 25, 1971. He was an *At-Large Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Hawaii**. He is survived by wife, Kwi Nyon Santoki;

son, Alex Santoki; daughter, Joyce Yonamine (Brent); and three grandchildren. Private services were held.



**ALLAN R. SCHICHTEL** – Died Tuesday, September 12, 2023 in Ontario, New York at the age of 79. The cause of death was Alzheimer's disease. He was born in Gowanda, New York on June 20, 1944. He leaves his wife of 56 years, Rose; children, Doreen (John) LiPari, Lisa (Paul) McPherson and Mark (Kristen) Schichtel; grandchildren, Phil and Sadie LiPari, Ben and Abby McPherson, Eli and Jonah Schichtel; sister, Nancy (Robert) Hodgson; brothers, Peter (Barbara) and Terry (Mary Jane) Schichtel; nieces and nephews. A United States Vietnam War Army Veteran, Allan was a long-time member, and chaplain of the Webster VFW Post #9483. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Rochester Chapter #20**. He enjoyed vacationing with family and especially loved going to his grandchildren's games and events. A volunteer with the Webster Food Pantry, Allan was also a Eucharistic minister, sharing the Eucharist with many elderly and homebound people. At home, he enjoyed working in the yard and gardening. Friends came to visit the family from 4:00-7:00 PM on Friday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at the Willard H. Scott Funeral Home, 12 South Avenue, Webster. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at 10:00 AM on Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup> at Holy Trinity Church, 1460 Ridge Road, Webster. The interment was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to the Alzheimer's Association, 200 Meridian Centre Boulevard, Suite #110, Rochester, NY 14618.

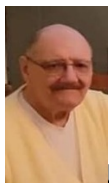


**NEAL ROBERT SCHULTZ, SR.** - Died Monday, July 31, 2023 in Prattville, Alabama at the age of 86. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on August 20, 1936 to the late Frank and Evelyn Schultz. He was also predeceased by one son, Ronald Edward Schultz and one grandchild, Kodi Alan Silva. Mr. Schultz proudly served his country for 20 years in the United States Air Force and retired as 100 percent disabled. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Montgomery Chapter #607**. He is survived by his loving wife of 67 years, Billie Schultz; three daughters, Evelyn Silva, Vikki Gilmore and Connie Schultz; one son, Neal Schultz, Jr.; nine grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; extended family and friends. A Celebration of Life was held at a later date.



**GEORGE LEON SEARFOSS, SR.** - Died Friday, July 7, 2023 the Center for Hospice Care in Elkhart, Indiana at the age of 76. He was a resident of Elkhart. The cause of death was cancer with which he battled for three years. George was born in South Bend, Indiana on April 7, 1947 to the late Harold and Rose (née Palmero) Searfoss. George attended and graduated from Saint Joseph High School in South Bend, Indiana and Saint Edward's University in Austin, Texas. George earned an Associate of Arts Degree in Labor Studies from Indiana University, South Bend, later in life. George was a veteran of the United States Army and proudly served his country as an infantryman during the Vietnam War. He was honorably discharged in 1971. After being discharged, George worked in sales for the Sunoco Oil Company, as a Train Master and Safety Supervisor for Conrail, and as a member of the Labor Studies Department at Indiana University, South Bend. George was a devout Catholic and member of Saint Vincent de Paul Catholic Church for over 40 years. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – South Bend Chapter #1027**. He spent many hours volunteering for veteran organizations, enjoying time with his family and friends, and reading his favorite books. George was a very proud Grandpa and loved visiting his grandchildren who live in different states as well as spending time with his grandchildren who live locally. The love and caring that he extended to everyone in his life on a daily basis was truly his greatest gift. George is survived by his wife of 55 years, Sylvia (née Ludwig) Searfoss, his children: George, Jr. (Katina) Searfoss of South Bend, Ileana (Eric) Reed of Sugarloaf, California, Henry Searfoss of Elkhart, Edward (Patricia) Searfoss of Phoenix, Arizona, Isaac Searfoss of Mishawaka, Renee (Andrew Busch) Searfoss of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, and Gabrielle (David) Mieher of Loveland, Ohio, and beloved grandchildren. George is preceded in death by his parents; brothers: Theodore, David, Thomas, and James; and grandson, Andrew. A celebration of George's life was held from 5:00-7:00 PM at the Hartzler-Gutermuth-Inman Funeral Home on Thursday, July 13, 2023. A Memorial Mass was held at Saint Vincent de Paul Catholic Church at 11:00 AM on Friday, July 14, 2023. Memorial gifts may be made in George's name to the Center for Hospice Care, 22579 Old U.S. 20 East, Elkhart, Indiana 46516.

**ANGELO A. SEVERINO** – Died Monday, August 28, 2023 in Myersville, Maryland at the age of 80. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on February 21, 1943. He is survived by his wife, Lisa. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was an *At-Large Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Virginia**.



**JOHN E. SHAW** - Died Monday, September 4, 2023 at home in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania at the age of 80, with his wife Karen and loved ones by his side. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on December 24, 1942 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to the late John Edward Reeves and the late Greeda (née Davis) Shields. He was the loving husband of Karen M. (née Bowen) Shaw, Gettysburg. They would have celebrated their 29<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on September 16,



2023. John served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War and was employed as a security guard for many years with the U.S. Army Research Laboratory, Adelphi, MD. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Pennsylvania**. A graveside service was held on Saturday, September 9, 2023 at 11:00 AM at Evergreen Cemetery, 799 Baltimore Street, Gettysburg. The family would like to thank Compassus Hospice for their care.



**MICHAEL CONRAD “Mike” SHEA** - Died Sunday, April 9, 2023 in Veradale, Spokane Valley, Washington at the age of 78, surrounded by the love, laughter, and tears of family and friends. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Spokane, Washington on January 4, 1945 to the late Thomas and Bernita Shea. The influence of the Jesuits of Gonzaga on his life was present from an early age. He was baptized at Saint Aloysius on the Gonzaga campus, went to Saint Aloysius Catholic school and Gonzaga Prep before attending Gonzaga University. His first love was baseball, and he parlayed a sweet left-handed swing and a successful high school career into a spot on the Gonzaga baseball team roster from 1965-1968. Graduation from Gonzaga earned him a degree in History and a Commission in the United States Army as a Second Lieutenant. He trained at Fort Benning and eventually found himself jumping out of helicopters in the jungles of Vietnam as an Infantry Officer with the 1<sup>st</sup> Air Cavalry Division. He was a decorated combat veteran, having received two Bronze Stars (one for Valor), an Army Commendation Medal for Valor, the Vietnamese Gallantry Cross, the Air Medal, and he wore his combat infantryman’s badge with pride. Although he survived his time in Vietnam, a part of his soul never returned from the jungles of Southeast Asia. What remained ached for those he witnessed leave the world too soon. Of the men he served with he wrote the following in a letter home, “These 19-year-old kids make sacrifices beyond need and they suffer so greatly from many diseases, yet they give all they have in combat. They have done deeds worthy of a thousand medals, yet they ask for none. They do not seek glory or fame. They seek peace for the next generation. Each one is deserving of the phrase, ‘He is a man.’” He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Spokane Chapter #879**. Life after the military saw him turn the G.I. Bill into a Juris Doctorate from the Gonzaga School of Law which enabled him to embark upon a 40-year career in Human Resources, Risk Management, and Labor Relations. His career began at the City of Spokane with stops at Central Pre-Mix, Western Washington University, and Blue Mountain Community College, before finally completing his career where it started as the Director of Human Resources for the City of Spokane. Mike loved nature and the outdoors and enjoyed hiking, fishing, and gardening. He was a man of deep faith, a life-long learner, a voracious reader, loved a healthy debate and was always quick with a joke or a quip. A true renaissance man, he was a successful coach, educator, father, husband, and friend. While Mike will be missed by many, they can take comfort in the fact that he is looking over them with a cat in his lap, a Labrador at his feet, and a good book in his hands. Mike is survived by the love of his life and wife of 51 years, Alice (née Barnes); his sister Dianne Hammer; his two sons and their spouses: Matt and Viktoriya Shea; Marc and Katie Shea; and his grandchildren; Molly, Michael and Margaret. He was preceded in death by his parents and a menagerie of cats and Labrador dogs too

numerous to list. Mike's life was celebrated at a vigil on April 28<sup>th</sup> at the Hennessy Funeral Home at 6:00 PM, followed by a funeral mass at Saint Aloysius on the Gonzaga Campus on April 29<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM and finally interment at the Veteran's Cemetery in Medical Lake on May 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:30 AM.



**JAMES JOSEPH "Jim" SITTER** - Died Tuesday, August 29, 2023 at his home in Oshkosh, Wisconsin at the age of 75, surrounded by family. The cause of death was cancer. He was born in Oshkosh on December 16, 1947 to the late James Sitter and Elsie (née Lawler) Sitter. He was united in marriage to Heidimarie Wenzel on August 22, 1970 and had three daughters. Jim faithfully served in the United States Army for 21 years. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Oshkosh Chapter #437**. He loved traveling with Heidi all over the world, especially Germany to visit Heidi's family back home. He was an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed hunting, fishing, hiking, and camping with his family. Jim was a family man who loved being an "Opa" to his grandchildren, attending family get-togethers, and going for car rides with Heidi. Jim is lovingly survived by his wife of 53 years, Heidi Sitter; daughters, Jorie (Zane) Larson, Fransiska (Jason) Hill, Nicol (Bobby) Balda; grandchildren, Zachary (fiancé Katie), Alexandra, Cale, Adelle, Charlotte, and Sage; siblings, George (Carla) Sitter and Anna (Kevin) Swan. He is further survived by countless cherished in-laws in Germany. In addition to his parents, Jim was preceded in death by his grandson, Owen and sister, Marcia McCutcheon. A memorial service with military honors was held at 11:00 AM on Thursday, September 7, 2023, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1206 Ontario Street with Reverend Paul Lidtke officiating. Visitation was held at the church from 9:00 AM until the time of the service. The Sitter family would like to thank the Michael D. Wachtel Cancer Center, the Promedica Hospice team, as well as the nurses and doctors of Ascension Mercy Hospital for the care provided to Jim throughout the years. Also, thank you to the American Legion Cook Fuller Post #70 for the compassion and support given to Jim. Another thank you to everyone that sent cards, gifts, support, and prayers. It brought great comfort to Jim and his family on his final journey.



**DANA LYNN SMITH** - Died Thursday, February 23, 2023 at home in La Follette, Tennessee at the age of 74. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on February 17, 1949 in Campbell County, Tennessee to the late Emmitte and Dora (née Elkins) Smith. He was a Past Master of Valley Lodge #383 of Andersonville, a member of the Shriners, and a member of the Honor Guard of LaFollette. He worked 25 years at Methodist Medical Center of Oak Ridge where he was MMCER of the year 2006. He served 25 years in the National Guard. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Knoxville Chapter #1148**. He enjoyed traveling, building houses, and collecting antique watches and razor knives. He enjoyed going to church where he

attended Woodlake Baptist Church. He is preceded in death by Father and Mother: Emmitte and Dora Elkins Smith, Brothers: Delmer, R. L., Dale and Emmitte Smith, Jr. He is survived by wife of 53 years Alma Sue (née Cooper) Smith of LaFollette, Son: Todd Lynn Smith, Granddaughters: Martina and Madison Smith of Anderson County, Father and Mother-in-Law: Clifford and Ruth Cooper, Sister: Margie Silcox and a host of family and friends to mourn his passing. Special thanks to Amedisys Hospice Care. Family received friends from 5:00-7:00 PM on Sunday, February 26<sup>th</sup> at the Cross-Smith Funeral Home with funeral service at 7:00 PM in Cross-Smith Chapel with Reverend George Asbury officiating. Family and friends met at 11:00 AM on Monday at Woodhaven Memorial Gardens for the interment with Military Honors by Campbell County Honor Guard. The arrangements were made by the Cross-Smith Funeral Home Condolences may be given online at <http://www.cross-smithfuneralhome.com>.



**ERICK TAYLOR "Rick" SMITH** - Died Saturday, August 5, 2023 in Prattville, Alabama at the age of 75. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Charlotte, North Carolina on January 6, 1948 to the late Aaron Smith and Helen (née Mitchell) Smith. Mr. Smith proudly served his country in the United States Army. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America - Montgomery Chapter #607**. He worked for CSX Railroad for 36 years. Mr. Smith was preceded in death by his parents, Aaron Smith and Helen Mitchell; brother, Stephen Thomas Smith; nephew, Joshua Smith; and his mother-in-law and father-in-law, Frances and Jake Gallman. He is survived by his loving wife of 54 years, Nancy Smith; two sons, Ashley Smith (Angie), Jason Smith (Mandy); sister, Debbie Lovvorn (Jeff); eleven grandchildren, Barrett, Gabriel, Nicholas, Jackson, Kellen, Daly, Henry, Charlie, Samuel, Emily, and Judah Smith; and numerous extended family members and many friends. Pallbearers were his grandsons, and the honorary pallbearers were David Gallman, Charles Thompson, Gus Uebelsteadt, and Wayne Powell. Flowers were appreciated, or memorial donations made in his honor to the Prattville High School Band Boosters at 1315 Upper Kingston Road, Prattville, AL 36067. Funeral services were held on Wednesday, August 9, 2023 at 11:00 AM at the Prattville Memorial Chapel with Reverend Doug Powell officiating. The burial was at the Alabama National Cemetery in Montevallo. Visitation was held on Wednesday at Prattville Memorial from 9:30 until 11:00 AM.

**ROBERT L. SPENCER** - Died Thursday, July 27, 2023, at Country Club Rehabilitation Campus in Delaware, Ohio at the age of 83. He was a resident of Delaware, Ohio. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on August 1, 1939 in Delaware, Ohio to the late Bernard and Licille (née Friend) Spencer. A proud United States Army Veteran of the Vietnam War, he was awarded two Bronze Service Stars to his Vietnam Service Medal. Robert was a retired prosthetic purchasing agent. Robert was a member of East Side Mission, a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Delaware Chapter #1095**, and American Legion Post #115. He will be remembered for his caring ways and service to Country. He is survived by his beloved wife of 42 years, Toby Ann (née Langhouser), children Bernard Spencer, Lisa Spencer, Christopher Spencer, and stepson Howard Gorsuch Jr., and extended family. In addition to his parents, he was also preceded in death by

brothers: Kenneth, Charles, and Harry Spencer, as well as stepchildren Madelyn and Norman Gorsuch. Funeral services were held at 11:00 AM on Tuesday, August 1<sup>st</sup> at the Robinson Funeral Home, 32 West Winter Street, Delaware, Ohio. Visitation was held thirty minutes prior to the services, Pastor Donnie Akers officiated. The burial was in the Marlborough Cemetery with military honors provided by the members of the Delaware Vietnam Veterans of America - Chapter #1095. Condolences may be expressed at [www.robinsonfuneralhomeinc.com](http://www.robinsonfuneralhomeinc.com).



**THOMAS GERALD STEEN** - Died Tuesday, August 15, 2023, at Tucker Hospice House in Kannapolis, North Carolina at the age of 77. He was a resident of Kannapolis. The cause of death is unknown. Thomas was born on August 16, 1945 in Rowan County to the late Lee and Leona (née Walden) Steen. Thomas proudly served his country in the United States Army during the Vietnam War and was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Concord Chapter #909**. Thomas was a graduate of A.L. Brown High School in 1964. He spent his career working as a truck driver for Watkins Motor Lines for 30 years. In his free time, he enjoyed going dancing at the Cabarrus County Senior Center with his wife and attending the mini reunions for the A. L. Brown Class of 1964. Thomas also loved to bass fish and surf fish at the Outer Banks. Thomas was predeceased by his wife of 58 years, Edna Lee Steen in 2022. Those left to cherish his memory are his daughters, Tracey S. Wilansky and her fiancé Keith McRae and Donna S. Anderson and her husband Danny; his grandchildren, Blair Wagner and her husband Allen, Katie Wilansky, Evan Anderson and his wife Nayla and Michael Wilansky; and his great grandchildren, Colt Wagner, Alanna Wagner, and Emersyn Wagner and many nieces, nephews and cousins. The family received friends on Friday, August 18, 2023 from 12:00 Noon-2:00 PM at Whitley's Funeral Home. The funeral service was held at 2:00 PM in Whitley's Funeral Home Chapel with Reverends Greg Sloop and Demps Overcash co-officiating. The burial with military honors was at the Carolina Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made in his memory to The Wounded Warrior Project, [www.woundedwarriorproject.org/donate](http://www.woundedwarriorproject.org/donate).



**WILLIAM DENNIS "Bill" STINSMAN, SR.** – Died Thursday, August 24, 2023 in Williamstown, New Jersey at the age of 74. The cause of death was cancer. Legacy Bill was born in Camden, New Jersey on October 16, 1948 and raised in Gloucester and then settled in Williamstown where he raised his family. He joined and proudly served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. During his serve, Bill was awarded several medals including the National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with four Bronze Service Stars and the Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device and 1 Oak Leaf Cluster. Upon returning he worked for more than 40 years as a Millwright for John Manville in Berlin. Bill will be fondly remembered as a hard-working man who loved his family and was very proud of his Military Service. He was an outgoing man who

enjoyed engaging people in conversation and made countless friends over the years. Bill was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Somerdale Chapter #1068** and VFW Post #303 in Sicklerville, He will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved him. Family Bill is the beloved husband of Anna "Shirley" (née Auxer); loving father of Stephen (Sandra) Stinsman, Billie-Jo (Jim) Stinsman- Tucker & William D. (Shawna)Stinsman Jr.; dear brother of Donna Mosley; grandfather of 11 and great-grandfather of 9. Farewell Tribute Relatives and friends were invited to attend Bill's viewing on Saturday, September 2, 2023 in the McGuinness Funeral Home, 573 Egg Harbor Road, (Sewell) Washington Township where his Funeral Ceremony was held at 12:00 Noon. Interment with Military Honors occurred at a later date. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society by visiting [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org). share the memories ... share love ... ShareLife® at [www.mcgfuneral.com](http://www.mcgfuneral.com).



**STEVEN JAY "Steve" STROOT** - Died unexpectedly Sunday, October 1, 2023 in New Baden, Illinois at the age of 70. The cause of death was a heart attack. He suffered a heart attack while on vacation in Maine and passed peacefully. Steve was born at the Naval Base Hospital in San Diego, California on February 11, 1953 the first child of the late Stanley Stroot and Norma (née Hoffman) Stroot. He grew up in Quincy, IL surrounded by generations of loving family members on both sides. Steven attended Saint Francis School and later graduated from Quincy High School, class of 1971. He joined the United States Air Force, serving in The Vietnam War, Operation Desert Shield, and Operation Desert Storm. Steven retired from the Air Force after serving for 27 years. Later in life, he earned a Bachelor's Degree in Human Resource Management and was two classes short of a Master's Degree in History from Park College. After retirement he worked several jobs including helping to establish the fuel tanks at Mid America Airport before it opened, as a Fuels Superintendent at Scott AFB, and most recently as the "Sarge" and "Strooter"- a Material Handler and Individual Protective Equipment Manager at the Scott AFB Armory. Steve played the drums in several bands throughout his life. Including performing in the "Tops in Blue" competitions. Winning in 1977. Steve was an adept learner. He loved history, hunting, the great outdoors, restoring his 1969 Camaro, carpentry, canoeing, and many other things. He could fix just about anything and enjoyed crafting military shadow boxes for veterans. Steve spent many years volunteering for Meals on Wheels, Habitat for Humanity, as a member of the Wesclin Athletic Booster Club, as a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Breese Chapter #269** and as a member of the VFW. He often volunteered his time and skills throughout the community. Whether it was refurbishing the Civic Center floor for the hockey teams, building props for a homecoming dance, or just helping with a project around town, he was always willing to lend a hand. Steve spent many years as a passionate volunteer for the St. Louis 2nd Rangers Division, helping to educate others, preserve history, and honor veterans. Steve loved swimming and backyard grilling with his family. He was a devoted husband to his wife Jo Anne. This month marks their 46<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary. They loved to travel and garden together. Steve was an inspiring father and a caring grandfather. He always had pocket candy, cookies, and a life lesson on hand. He is survived by his wife Jo Anne, and his three children. Jesse (and Kari) Stroot of O'Fallon, Stephanie (and Josh) Weight of New Baden, and Jeff (and Kelly) Stroot of New Baden.



He is also survived by his grandchildren; Sydney Butler, Tyler Butler, Michael Weight, Adilene Weight, Violet Weight, Stanley Stroot, Jessie Stroot, Jamison Stroot; his brother Jeff (and Jake) Stroot of Quincy IL, his sister Kim (Allen) Scheuermann of Payson, IL along with many nieces, nephews, brothers and sisters in law, and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents and grandparents. Steven is loved by many and will be greatly missed. A Funeral Mass was held at 10:00 AM on Tuesday, October 10, 2023 at Saint George Catholic Church in New Baden with Reverend Father Eugene Neff officiating. The interment was at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery in Saint Louis. Visitation was held from 4:00 until 7:00 PM on Monday, October 9, 2023 at the Nordike Funeral Home in New Baden. The Vietnam Veterans did a walk through at 6:00 PM on Monday at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation in honor of Steve to the U.S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ranger Infantry Battalion of Saint Louis at <https://www.paypal.com/paypalme/2ndRangersSTL> or the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter #269 and will be accepted at Nordike Funeral Home, 15 East Hanover Street, New Baden, IL 62265. Online condolences may be made to the Stroot family by visiting [www.nordikefuneralhome.com](http://www.nordikefuneralhome.com).



**EDWARD W. "Ed" STUHR** - Died Tuesday, August 15, 2023 in Van Dyne, Wisconsin at the age of 78, after a battle with cancer. He was formerly of Two Rivers, Wisconsin. Ed was born on June 17, 1945 in Wausau, Wisconsin the only child of the late Harold and Dorothy Stuhr. He graduated from Mishicot High School, in 1963, and attended Milwaukee Institute of Technology 1964-1966. Ed enlisted in the United States Army in 1967. He served 3 years of active duty in the United States Army Security Agency with a one-year tour of duty in Vietnam 1968-1969. He served Manitowoc County as a Sheriff's Deputy from 1970-1999. Ed was a *Charter Member* and *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America - Manitowoc Chapter #731** serving as Vice-President and on the Board of Directors. He was a member of the DAV Chapter #17, Oshkosh. He also served 6 years on the Manitowoc County Veterans' Service Commission. Ed was a member of Saint Paul's Lutheran Church in North Fond du Lac. He enjoyed fishing, sturgeon spearing, woodworking and remodeling his cottage on Lake Winnebago. His greatest joy was time with his grandchildren reading, fishing or just being together. He is survived by his loving wife, Barbara (née Wiltzius) Stuhr who he married on December 23, 1972 at Saint Joseph's Church in Fond du Lac; their children Kristin Mootz (Joel), Daniel Stuhr (Rebecca); grandchildren Ashlyn Mootz, Nathan Mootz, Silvia Stuhr, Edward Stuhr and Walter Stuhr; extended family and friends. The family greeted friends from 11:00 AM–12:00 Noon on Thursday, August 24, 2023 at Saint Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1010 Adams Avenue, North Fond du Lac. The memorial service was held at 12:00 Noon on Thursday, August 24, 2023 at Saint Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church with Reverends Elijah Ehlert and Michael Kampman co-officiating. The Manitowoc VVA Chapter #731 Honor Guard conducted Military Services at the church. Cremation took place afterwards. The Kurki Funeral Chapel and



Crematory served the family and the on-line guestbook can be found at [www.kurkifuneralchapel.com](http://www.kurkifuneralchapel.com).

**MARGARET E. SUNKEL-WRIGHT** – Died Tuesday, October 17, 2023 in Jacksonville, Florida at the age of 77. The cause of death was cancer. She was born in Bloomington, Illinois on August 30, 1946. She served in the United States Navy from August 28, 1967 to August 27, 1973. She was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Jacksonville Chapter #1046**.



**MARY ANN TARBY** – Died Thursday, September 14, 2023 in Parker, Colorado at the age of 75. The cause of death is unknown. She was born on January 20, 1948 at home in Columbus, Georgia to the late John Allen Davidson and Bertha Louise (née Hart) Davidson. Mary had a sister, Helen Chickering, two brothers, John Allen Davidson III, also known as Bubby, and Frankie Lee Davidson, and eight half brothers and sisters. She met her husband Michael Tarby, Jr. at Fort Benning, GA in 1962 and married on November 2, 1963, in the courthouse of Phenix City, AL. Mary, a Baptist, and Michael, a Russian Orthodox, did not know until years later how often God had guided them. Mary was a 20-year veteran's wife, and without question was entitled to all the awards her husband received. She endured challenge after challenge during her 20-year tour as a military spouse and overcame obstacles alone with their two children. She was supportive of Michael throughout multiple tours, including two years in Vietnam, one year in Korea, and numerous prolonged field exercises - all of which totaled to nine years of being apart. Through the military, the two also experienced living in Germany, Japan, and numerous places in the United States. These adventures were filled with many memories for Michael and Mary. She was a member of **Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America – Aurora Chapter #1106**. Mary endured many hardships, especially October 28, 1965, after losing her first child, Ann Christine, at birth. Her Angel rests in peace at Mount Olivet Cemetery in Queens, New York. Mary and her husband became blessed when John Michael was born on February 6, 1967 and again with the birth of Adam Vincent on February 9, 1972. Those blessings continued when Adam married Stacy and gave them three precious grandchildren: Layne, Lindsey, and Luke. The relationship she had with her grandchildren flourished over the years and every goodbye ended with Mary telling them, "LOVE YOU MORE THAN THE UNIVERSE." Mary worked in real estate for seven months while living in Austin, TX. She was not only good, she was exceptionally good. She became the top real estate salesperson for three months in Austin. With real estate taking time away from home, she left her job and became a Homemaker. John and Adam were top priority and her lifeline forever. No two boys could make her prouder. She became the boys' number one soccer fan, adding inspiration to the entire team - yelling and cheering. In addition, she was passionate about her crafts, whether it was the boys' birthday parties or holiday decorations. They were always elaborate. Mary's decorations had that special touch of making everyone feel welcome into their home. Then there was her magnificent Southern cooking, including Russian and Ukrainian dishes. Neighbors would drop in with the excuse of tasting the food and making sure it was okay. Cooking was unquestionably her joy. Mary had another special ingredient that God blessed her with, which was that of a caregiver. She became caregiver to six family members:

two mothers, Anna and Bertha; her brother, Bubby; her sister, Helen; Mike's Aunt, Sophie; and her stepfather, Elmer. Mary cared for both Bubby and Sophie while they stayed in the master bedroom where they gracefully departed. When visiting family members in nursing homes, she would also visit other patients who had no family. During the holidays, she would decorate their rooms and ensure facility staff were aware of any special needs. Church was always her foundation as God blessed Mary with faith, love, strength, kindness, respectfulness, and putting others before herself. In January 2023, Mary was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. She fought with all her strength during chemo and radiation. Although the medications helped to a degree, her best medicine was when the ladies from Crossroads Church and the ladies in the neighborhood spent precious time with her. During their visits, Mary's spirits were lifted with little to no thought of the issues before her. After they left, she would talk and smile for hours and disclose "secrets" of their talks – their love of shopping. And so, her time has come to go Home. On September 14, 2023, God lit the path to Heaven for her. Our family will miss her terribly



**WILLIAM K. "Bill" THACKER** (USA, MAJ-Ret.) - Died Monday, September 4, 2023 in Dawsonville, Georgia at the age of 87. The cause of death is unknown. William, fondly known as Bill, was born on August 8, 1936, in Swift Community, Hardin County, Tennessee to the late Chester and Marguerite May (née Gibson) Thacker. After he graduated from the UNA, he married Josephine Day in September of 1958. They taught school in Savannah, Tennessee, before he joined the United State Army where he served 25 years and retired as a Major. He was a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Dawsonville Chapter #970*. He then went to work for Florida Power for 21 years and retired from there. He and his wife Jo moved to Manchester, Tennessee, and lived there for 19 years until deciding to move closer to their daughter, Cindi, in Dawsonville, GA, where he lived for 7 years. Bill is survived by his wife, Jo, and his daughter, Cindi, son Ralph (Janet) and grandson Trace. He is also survived by his niece Judy VanDyke (Rich), nephew Steve Heady, and three great-nephews Dale Mullins (Shauna), Jim VanDyke (Courtney), and JJ VanDyke (Alisa) and two great-great-nephews and one great-great-niece. Bill was predeceased by his parents Chester and Marguerite, sisters Mary Emma, Kathy, and brothers Frank and Ralph and his son, Kevin. Bill was a kind man and gentle-hearted man loved by many and will be deeply missed. He served in many different churches as a teacher and deacon/elder. His strong faith was obvious to all. Bill's family hosted a visitation at Bearden Funeral Home in Dawsonville, Georgia on September 8, 2023 from 3:00 to 5:00 PM. His interment was on September 11, 2023 at 1100 AM at the Savannah Cemetery located in Savannah, Tennessee. In lieu of flowers donations can be made to either Bible Literature Missionary Foundations located at 2101 US0231, Shelbyville, TN 37160 or AccentCare Inpatient Hospice Center-North Georgia located at 8013 Majors Road, Cumming, GA 30041. The Bearden Funeral Home of Dawsonville, GA was in charge of the arrangements.



**JOSEPH JOHN "Joe" TRAMONTE** - Died Thursday, September 7, 2023 at a local care facility in Lake Charles, Louisiana at the age of 70, with his loving family by his side. He was a resident of Lake Charles. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Lake Charles on October 1, 1952 to the late Angelo Tramonte, Sr. and Bernita (née Johnson) Tramonte. Joe was native and life-long resident of the Lake Charles Area. He honorably and faithfully served our country in the United States Army during Vietnam and was an insulator for Local #112. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Lake Charles Chapter #1098**. In his spare time, he enjoyed hunting, fishing, cooking, playing pool, and especially dancing. Joe lived life to the fullest, always seeing the glass as half full. There are many sayings that will be remember as him saying including, "We are not building a space ship here" or "If it ain't broke, don't fix it!". He will be mostly remembered as one that was loved by many, but loved everybody. He was preceded in death by his parents, Angelo Victor (Sr.) and Bernita Johnson Tramonte; siblings, Angelo Victor Tramonte, Jr. and Nathan Allen Tramonte. He leaves to honor and cherish his memories his beloved wife, Judith Fay (née Arabie) Tramonte; two siblings, Anthony Mark Tramonte, Sr. (Dana) and Nancy Therese Henry; daughter, Monica Renee Stutes; step children; Ashley Trahan, Stacy Veillion (Tony), April Trahan, Kenneth Trahan (Nicole), Katherine Whatley (John), Tiffany Zuniga (Alex), Brittany Trahan (Clayton) and Morgan Trahan; as well as numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews and extended family of the heart. Memorial services were held at 11:00 AM on Thursday, September 14, 2023 at Simple Traditions by Johnson, 3448 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Lake Charles. Reverend Father Joshua Page officiated. Visitation was held on Thursday from 9:00 AM until the time of the rosary service at 10:30 AM. Interment services were at 1:30 PM at the Southwest Louisiana Veterans Cemetery, 1610 Evangeline Road in Jennings, LA. Reverend Father Trey Ange officiated.



**VENTON BERNARD "Bernie" UPTON** - Died Monday, September 4, 2023 in Moores Hill, Indiana at the age of 79. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on September 25, 1943 in Aurora, Indiana to the late John Upton and Evelyn (née Lipscomb) Upton Chapin. He proudly served his country as a member of the United States Army. Bernie worked in maintenance for I & M Power Plant, retiring after over 30 years of service. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Moores Hills Chapter #71**, and a founding member of the Moores Hill Church of Christ. Bernie is survived by his loving spouse of 58 years, Wanda (née Newman) Upton, daughters, Missi (Phil) Plunkett, Venita (Eric) Gosmeyer; grandchildren, Ryan and Ian Plunkett and Jeremy Reynolds (Christie); great-grandchild, Andrew Reynolds; sister, Gladys Gibbs. He was preceded in death by his parents, John Upton and Evelyn (Leroy) Chapin; and brothers, Eugene, Bob, and Leonard. Friends were received on Friday, September 8, 2023, from 5:00-9:00 PM at the Moores Hill Church of Christ, 13567 State Road 350, Moores Hill, IN.

Services were held at the church on Saturday at 11:00 AM with Pastors Tito Pel and Rex Dunning co-officiating. The interment was in the Mount Sinai Cemetery, Aurora, IN. Military graveside services were conducted by the Southeastern Indiana Honor Guard. Contributions in lieu of flowers may be made to the Moores Hill Church of Christ.

**ALLEN C. WALSH** – Died recently in 2023 in Lake City, Florida at the of 76. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on February 10, 1967. He is survived by his wife. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Tallahassee Chapter #96**.



**DONALD FRANCIS WALSH** (USN, CDR-Ret.) - Died Sunday, August 27, 2023 in Green Cove Springs, Florida at the age of 93. He was a resident of Lake Asbury in Clay County, Florida. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Bethel, Connecticut on August 17, 1930. CDR Walsh is survived by his wife Johnnie Lou Walsh, son Michael F. Walsh, daughter Mary Ann Curry, four grandchildren: Amy Walsh, Katie Adams, David Trosclair, and Haley Smith. Additionally, he is survived by five great grandchildren. CDR Walsh joined the Navy in 1948 as an E-1 working in a blimp squadron and quickly progressed through the ranks. In 15 years he held all enlisted ranks through and including Master Chief before his promotion to Ensign. In the following 15 years he progressed through the officer ranks to Commander. CDR Walsh is a veteran of both the Korean and the Vietnam wars. And when he retired in 1978 he was in Officer in Charge of the Pinecastle Bombing Range. Following his retirement CDR Walsh worked at Steuart Petroleum Company for 13 years. A few days after he left Steuart there was a fire at the plant and he was called in to advise on the resolution of the fire. CDR Walsh married Johnnie Lou Walsh, his wife of 73 years, on May 2, 1952 and they had a wonderful, happy marriage until his passing. CDR Walsh belonged to numerous military and civic associations e.g. Fleet Reserve, VFW, Military Officers Association, Naval Airship Association, Lake Asbury Civic Association, and the Lake Asbury Lake Lot Owners Association. CDR Walsh held a leadership position in many of these and was well respected by his peers and fellow members. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Orange Park Chapter #1059**. He will be sorely missed by all who knew him and loved him! CDR Walsh: We salute you and your service to our military and our community! A visitation for CDR Walsh was held on Thursday, September 7, 2023 from 3:00 to 5:00 PM at the Hardage-Giddens Holly Hill Funeral Home, 3601 Old Jennings Road, Middleburg, FL 32068. A graveside service was held on Friday, September 8, 2023 from 10:00 to 10:30 AM at the Jacksonville National Cemetery, 4083 Lannie Road, Jacksonville, FL 32218. LANE # 3. Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at [www.hollyhillfunerals.com](http://www.hollyhillfunerals.com) for the Walsh family.



**RUSSELL H. "Wheeler" "Russ" WHEELLOCK** - Died Thursday, August 17, 2023 at Azura Memory Care of Manitowoc, Wisconsin at the age of 82. He was a resident of Manitowoc. The cause of death is unknown. Russell was born on January 26, 1941 in Manitowoc to the late Russell and Janice (née Bentley) Wheelock. As a young man he joined the United States Marine Corps. On June 9, 2001, he married the former Kristen (née Nagel) Schindler. Russ owned and operated his own antique store known as Wheeler on the River, on North 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Manitowoc. In the past he was also a used car salesman for Yanda Motors. Russ was a member of the Manitowoc Eagles Club, Badger Knife Club, a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Manitowoc Chapter #731** and The Renew Church of Two Rivers. Survivors include his wife: Kristen Wheelock, Whitelaw; his children: Darren (Becky) Wheelock, Manitowoc, Valerie Buxbaum, Manitowoc, Cordelia Rodriguez, Sheboygan; stepchildren: Benjamin Kennealey, Eugene, OR, Rachael (Jon) Propson, Madison, FL, Leah Schindler, Plymouth, Joshua Schindler, Manitowoc; one sister: Sherry Ginn, Pensacola, FL, and one brother: Jeffrey Wheelock, Pensacola, FL; grandchildren, other relatives and friends survive. He was preceded in death by his parents: Russell and Janice Wheelock; a brother: Richard Wheelock; one son-in-law: Bob Buxbaum. A Memorial Service was held at 11:00 AM on Saturday, August 26, 2023 at Renew Church, 1029 33<sup>rd</sup> Street, Two Rivers. Officiating was Pastor Randall Lassila. Relatives and friends visited at the church on Saturday from 10:30 AM until the time of services at 11:00 AM. The burial of his cremated remains was at the Evergreen Cemetery, Manitowoc. A memorial fund was established in Russell's name for the Lakeshore Humane Society or the Voice of the Martyrs. The Lakeshore Family Funeral Homes, Reinbold and Pfeffer Family Funeral Home of Kellnersville assisted the family. Online condolences may be expressed by visiting [www.lakeshorefamilyfuneralhomes.com](http://www.lakeshorefamilyfuneralhomes.com). The family would like to thank Kelly and the staff of Azura Memory Care and HomeCare Health Services and Hospice for all of their loving care shown to Russ these past two years.



**SPENCER KING WHITE II** - Died Sunday, July 30, 2023 at Timberview Crossing in Timberville, Virginia at the age of 73. He was a resident of Singers Glen, Virginia. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on May 30, 1950 in Clarksburg, West Virginia to the late Thomas and Mary Lou (née Thorn) White. He retired from XPDEX as a paper sales director. Spencer was a true patriot and loved his country. He was a veteran of the United States Marine Corps and served his country during the Vietnam War. Spencer was deeply committed to veterans and was a member and past commander of the Chimney Rock VFW Post #9660 and also a member of Breaking Free, a non-profit benefiting veterans and first responders through working with horses. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Harrisonburg (Virginia) Chapter #1062**. Spencer volunteered at Broadway High School as an advisor on Patriotism and earned his master



gardener's certification. On August 27, 1994 he married Katherine "Kate" Anderson, who survives. Spencer was a devoted father to his daughter, Kathryn Sharrock, who survives, and husband Brian, of Glen Ridge, NJ, grandsons; Declan and Matthew Sharrock, of Glen Ridge, NJ, step-daughters; Rayne Stenger and husband Lee, of Christiansburg, VA, Chelsea Perramond and husband Marc, of Pacifica, CA, step-grandchildren; Madeira and Colette Perramond, of Pacifica, CA, Mariah and Audrey Stenger, of Christiansburg, VA, a brother; Thomas White and wife Julie, of Columbus, OH, a nephew; Samuel White and wife Emily, of Columbus, OH, and a niece; Elizabeth White, of Columbus, OH. He was preceded in death by two sisters: Martha McClure White, Ellen White Pollack. A memorial service with military honors was held on Friday at 11:00 AM at the Grandle Funeral Chapel in Broadway. Per his request his remains were cremated, and the burial was in the Bridgeport Cemetery in Clarksburg, WV. The funeral arrangements were entrusted to Grandle Funeral Home in Broadway, VA.



**JAMES A. "Jim" WILSMANN** - Died unexpectedly Monday, August 7, 2023 in his home in Mishicot, Wisconsin at the age of 77. The cause of death is unknown. Jim was born in Two Rivers, Wisconsin on February 18, 1946 to the late Roger and Loretta (née Flentje) Wilsmann. He graduated from Washington High School in Two Rivers with the class of 1964. Jim served our country as a proud member of the United States Army. He was a tank gunner in the Vietnam War (1968-69) until his honorable discharge. Returning home, he worked for a short time as a barber, before starting his career as a firefighter/paramedic with the City of Two Rivers Fire Department. He spent the next 26 years with the department, retiring on May 3, 2001. Jim enjoyed many great years of retirement, mainly as a true sportsman who loved the great outdoors. He was an avid hunter and fisherman, and loved spending time in Point Beach State Forest any chance he had. As a longtime member of the Manitowoc Rifle and Pistol Club, he often enjoyed going out to the range to shoot. Jim was a huge supporter of the annual Highground Bike Tour for many years - A Heroes Ride which supports the Highground's mission to honor, heal and educate our Veterans and their families. He was a *Life Member* of the **Vietnam Veterans of America – Manitowoc Chapter #731**. Above all, Jim loved the time spent with his children and grandchildren, especially teaching his grandkids true sportsmanship. He is survived by his son, Jeremy Wilsmann of Mishicot; one daughter and son-in-law, Kelly and Tim Roth of Rochester, MN; three grandchildren: Hannah, Will, and Luke; and the mother of his children, Lynn (Gary) Huempfnor of Whitelaw. He is further survived by a brother & sister-in-law, Charles and Ann Wilsmann of Mishicot; one sister and brother-in-law, Nancy and Richard Klinkner of Two Rivers; along with several nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, Roger and Loretta Wilsmann. A funeral service was held at 3:00 PM on Saturday, August 12, 2023 at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 3234 Mishicot Road, Two Rivers. Pastor Thomas Schmitt presided at the service. Military graveside rites were accorded at the church immediately following the service by members of Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter #731. The family greeted relatives and friends at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Saturday from 1:00 until 3:00 PM. Memorials would be appreciated to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church or The Highground Heroes Ride Bike Tour. Online condolences may be sent to the Wilsmann family by



visiting [www.dejamartin.com](http://www.dejamartin.com). The Deja and Martin Funeral Chapels of Two Rivers assisted the family with the funeral arrangements.



**JOHN M. WYNNE** – Died Saturday, August 19, 2023 in Somerdale, New Jersey at the age of 72. The cause of death was cirrhosis of the liver. He was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on July 9, 1951 to the late John and Anna (née Sweeney) Wynne. He was the devoted husband of Jacqueline (née Pyne) Wynne. Loving father of John (Lindsay), the late Timothy, and Lauren Wynne. He is remembered by many extended family members and friends. He served in the United States Navy from March 1971 to March 1975 with a tour of duty in Vietnam from 1972 to 1973. John was a proud *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Somerdale Chapter #1068** and VFW Somerdale Post #7334. An avid Eagle fan, he also loved to ride his motorcycle and garden. Most of all, John loved to spend time with his family and loved ones. The family would like to thank Bayda Hospice for the great care they took of John the last few months. There was a visitation on August 25<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 until 11:00 AM at the Gardner Funeral Home, Runnemede. A memorial service was at 11:00 AM. The interment was private at the request of the family. In lieu of flowers donations may be made in John's name to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Fund, PO Box 37920, Boone, IA 50037 (<http://jdrf.org>).

*ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO THEM O LORD! AND LET  
PERPETUAL LIGHT SHINE UPON THEM! MAY THEY REST IN  
PEACE! AMEN! MAY THEIR SOULS AND THE SOULS OF ALL THE  
FAITHFUL DEPARTED THROUGH THE MERCY OF GOD, REST IN  
PEACE!*